



Jordan Times

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Riyadh urged to facilitate entry

AMMAN (J.T.) — The barriers between Jordan and Saudi Arabia are open and not a single person has been turned away and refused entry into Saudi Arabia, according to Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Jordan, Mohammed Fakhri Al-Fayez. "Any citizen wishing to travel to Saudi Arabia will not be turned away at the borders and will receive the best treatment as before," and all formalities concerning travel remain the same and without any change, the ambassador said in a statement to the Jordan Times. He said that Saudi Arabia's embassy in Amman had urged the Saudi Foreign Ministry to offer Jordanian passport holders further facilities. The ambassador said that the Jordanians living in Saudi Arabia had not been affected by "any change whatsoever" and that they are well treated.

U.S. 'will help small countries'

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is prepared to help small countries weather the financial hardship of an embargo against Iraq, the State Department said Tuesday. Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said that while the method of assistance has not been decided "the United States will do whatever it can to help alleviate some of the pain that it (the embargo) is going to cause some of these countries." Obviously, the United States is not oblivious to the fact that for many countries it is an enormous sacrifice to participate, in the boycott, Tutwiler told a daily news briefing. While acknowledging "some countries are going to need from the international community... some possible help," she added, "I am not saying that at this point a decision has been made... of how we would go about it." Senior U.S. officials aboard Secretary of State James Baker's aircraft to Turkey last week said that country, which also has significant commerce with neighboring Iraq, would be compensated for losses associated with participation in the embargo. They insisted it would not cost American taxpayers but the wealthy Al Sabah family of Kuwait.

King Hussein on what could be ground-breaking Gulf mission

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein, fresh after talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, flew to Washington Tuesday in what was seen as a new effort to mediate the Gulf crisis and explain Jordan's position towards the issue.

According to a senior official quoted by the Associated Press, the King, who paid a visit to Baghdad Monday, was carrying a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to U.S. President George Bush.

The King was expected to arrive in Washington Wednesday, and a White House spokesman said Bush, who interrupted a vacation to deal with the Gulf crisis and discussions on the American budget, would hold talks with the King Thursday.

The King will spend Wednesday night in Washington before proceeding to Maine for the meeting with Bush at the president's ocean-side home.

Shortly before his departure, the King received Iraqi Labour Minister Umeed Madhat Mubarak, who was believed to have delivered to him a written message from Saddam Hussein outlining a proposal for an international conference on the entire Middle East situation. According to American television, the proposal called for an immediate freeze in U.S. troop deployment in Saudi Arabia, in a marked change from earlier Iraqi demands for an immediate withdrawal of the forces before any discussions.

No further details of the proposal were immediately reported.

The King's trip to Washington is seen as a continuation of mediation efforts he undertook immediately after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2. The King had managed to produce an agreement for a mini summit of Arab leaders in Jeddah for Aug. 5 and also brought about an Iraqi declaration of withdrawal from Kuwait beginning the same day. However, the effort was aborted when the Arab League council issued a statement Aug. 3 condemning Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait.

Despite the setback, further

compounded by a harsh denunciation of Kuwait by 12 Arab states at an Arab summit held in Cairo last Friday, the King has expressed hope that the Gulf crisis could be resolved if the international powers would give the Arabs a chance to contain the issue under an Arab umbrella.

In Washington, however, President Bush said Tuesday he doubted whether a quick solution could be found to the Gulf crisis.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the King had telephone contacts with the leaders of Yemen, Tunisia, Sudan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), in connection with the crisis.

A few hours after the King's return from Iraq, the new U.S. ambassador to Jordan, Roger Harrison, presented his credentials to King Hussein.

But Bush said he thought the economic sanctions being clamped on Iraq might bring about such a solution.

"I don't see it right now," Bush said at a White House news conference when asked if he saw any hope of a diplomatic solution to

the crisis.

"But as these (economic) sanctions begin to take effect — it will take a while — I would hope there would be a diplomatic solution to this crisis."

King Hussein called Bush Monday night and asked for the meeting, White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said.

King Hussein will spend the night in Washington before flying to Maine Thursday.

The monarch is "expected to arrive in Kennebunkport about noon on Thursday, meet with the president at Walker's Point and depart right after the meeting," the spokesman said.

In the flurry of high-level diplomacy, Bush also was to meet late Tuesday in Washington with Foreign Minister Sheikh Saud Al Sabah of Kuwait.

Bush said he looked forward to his discussion with King Hussein Thursday.

But the president said he knew nothing about any message from Saddam that the King was reportedly to be carrying.

"He mentioned no letter from Saddam to me," Bush said in

reference to a phone call in which King Hussein arranged his scheduled visit to Kennebunkport, Maine.

Bush left open the possibility that King Hussein might be hearing such a letter, adding: "He may have it."

Jordan's opposition to foreign military presence in the Gulf has led to U.S.-Jordanian tensions and created a dramatic backdrop for the Maine meeting.

Bush said the United States might extend its blockade to Aqaba if there were proof supplies were flowing through it to Iraq.

"I think at some point it might well be (blockaded) if it's a hole through which commerce flows," he said. "I would certainly think that Aqaba should be closed to Iraqi commerce."

Asked how long U.S. forces might be tied down in the Gulf and deployed in Saudi Arabia, and whether it might stretch into years, Bush replied:

"I don't know about a period of years but certainly we're going to be there long enough to get the job done."

Crown Prince: Jordan's stand misunderstood

AMMAN (J.T.) — There is clearly a misunderstanding of Jordan's position in the Gulf crisis and indeed there is indifference on the part of several parties as to listening to Jordan's views in this matter. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said here Tuesday.

Jordan is committed to the United Nations Security Council resolutions with regard to the application of sanctions on Iraq but for Jordan "it is not a matter of who we are with or against," the Prince said at a press conference at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

"In terms of the implementation of the sanctions you do not just turn off a switch not only in dealing with Iraq but also with Kuwait," Prince Hassan said.

"Of course half of our labour force is in the Gulf generally and a large percentage of them is in Kuwait," sending significant remittances which are important to Jordan and to the West Bankers where again this is an extension of our worry as how can Jordan continue to play a stabilising role as it looks westward," Prince Hassan noted.

"In terms of our relationship with Iraq," he said, "we gave credit facilities to Iraq during the war years and again Jordan has financial responsibility."

"In our discussion with the International Monetary Fund," the Prince continued, "we made it clear there is the case of national economy and a case of political economy, and I think as we look at the subject of the implementation of sanctions I think it is easy for others to position naively and to give the subject of sanctions some seriousness." But, he added, "the positioning of armies moved immediately from sanctions to blockade and that blockade is going to affect everyone in the region."

"I think it might be worthy of looking into the U.N. Charter where it had to do with any country affected by sanctions that country is clearly eligible for compensation."

The Jordanian government, he added, is holding contacts with the United Nations about the sanctions which do not include food and medical supplies. The U.N. charter, he said, gives countries 30 days to discuss the subject and provides for compensations for countries applying those sanctions.

Referring to the reactions in Jordan to the events in the Gulf, Prince Hassan said that the Jordanian people had been asking why the world did not apply U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 which calls for the withdrawal of all Israeli forces from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip occupied over 23 years ago by force of arms.

"People in Jordan ask why the world did not rise to rescue Yemen when it was invaded by Egyptian force which changed that country's regime by force at a time when only Jordan and Saudi Arabia backed the ousted Yemeni leader," Prince Hassan noted.

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He said that questions are also asked about the presence of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf whether they were there to implement the Security Council resolutions or to impose a blockade on Iraq.

The Jordanian people's sympathy with Iraq stems from the fact that Iraq had fought an eight-year long war on behalf of the Arab nation and the Jordanian people feel that foreign troops presence in the Gulf is a continuation of the 1956 events and that these forces have come to take Arab oil," Prince Hassan said.

In order to understand Jordan's position fully, one should view the Middle East region as a whole and to understand that the creation of instability in any one country can by no means help international efforts aimed at finding stability in the rest of the countries, he said. The Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and constant Israeli threats to the Arabs should also be taken into account, he said.

A solution for the Gulf crisis should come from the Arab countries and not through foreign military presence and such a solution is still possible despite the events and the divisions in the Arab World, he said.

What protects Jordan under the present circumstances is the democracy it enjoys and participation by all sectors of the public to fend off danger, the Prince added.

He said Jordan had links with all Arab countries and always seeks to solve disputes in the context of the Arab League without foreign intervention.

Jordanians well and safe in Kuwait and Iraq

By Ica Wahbeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — All Jordanians living in Kuwait and Iraq are doing well, and the Jordanian diplomatic missions in Kuwait City and Baghdad are extending necessary facilities to them, Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mustafa Bilal said Tuesday.

"No complaints have been reported by any Jordanian living in Kuwait or Iraq" in the wake of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2, Bilal said in a telephone interview.

According to Bilal, there are about 420,000 Jordanians in Kuwait, including children, living in Kuwait, and another 20,000 live in Iraq. "Our borders are open and there is no problem whatsoever in their passage to and from Iraq or Kuwait," he said.

Several Jordanian expatriates in Kuwait were vacationing at home when they heard of the Iraqi takeover. They were told that the treatment they received was "excellent" under the circumstances.

Bilal denied reports of Jordanian expatriates being returned from the Saudi border. "If any one was returned, then the case has not been brought to our attention," he said.

According to a senior official, several Jordanians were returned from at least one border crossing after the Saudi authorities cited "military activities" on their side of the border. The Saudi ambassador to Jordan also said Tuesday no-one had been turned back.

Ministry of Interior sources also confirmed that no complaints were received by the ministry over Jordanians being stopped from entering Saudi territories.

Life was described as normal both in Iraq and to Kuwait, with the Iraqi army behaving in a "brotherly" manner, disciplined, "well behaved and ready at any time to extend a helping hand."

One of the Jordanians who returned two days ago back from Kuwait by car said: "My car broke down on the Kuwait-Iraqi border. I was at a loss when, from everywhere, Iraqi soldiers came and helped me repair my car."

According to the same source, who preferred to be identified only as Abu Zahair, a food crisis started on Monday, but things are not bleak at all. "I know people who went to the Iraqi army to complain about lack of food and they gave them food for free. They are eager to help anyone."

"How are Jordanians treated in Kuwait and Iraq?"

"We are brothers. Brothers in ideas and in ideology. There is a good feeling towards Jordanians. They are treated well." Abu Zahair added that there seemed to be "a feeling of freedom, of independence in the air."

Rush for U.S. dollars, withdrawals continues

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Despite assurances by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) that there is no panic buying of foreign currency in the local market, banks are reporting sizeable withdrawals, according to officials and banking sources.

The Jordanian dinar lost as much as 15 per cent of its value against the dollar in the black market in the past week, according to the sources. The American currency was quoted at 775 fils in the black market Tuesday while the official set CBJ rate was 657/661.0. On Aug. 1, one day before the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, there was a difference of only a few fils between the CBJ rate and the black market, banking sources noted.

"There is a high demand for foreign exchange in Jordan and in the Gulf," said economist Jawad Asani. "This is called cash preference because people want to carry money in their pockets for fear of bank closures due to the crisis."

Asani explained that because of links between Jordan and the Gulf states, the supply of the dollar had declined with the growing demand in the Gulf.

"Cash has become the dearest commodity in here and in the Gulf," he told the Jordan Times. "This is always the case in periods of instability. We witnessed the same during the 1967 and 1973 wars."

According to reports from the Gulf, most people have dropped gold as the means to hold on to their savings at times of crisis and are now opting for foreign currency, mostly European.

A private businessman and a former moneychanger, Mutec Kabarti, attributed the run on bank deposits and rush for dollars in Jordan to fears that the Arab

Sanction move in U.N. court, officials say

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan, which has repeatedly affirmed its adherence to all international treaties and agreements, including the charter of the United Nations, believes that the ball is in the court of the Security Council resolution calling for sanctions against Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait, according to senior officials.

Confirming that Jordan was indeed studying the impact of the sanctions on the national economy, a senior Foreign Ministry official said that "the Security Council has not even formed a committee to deal with the issue of sanctions, and Jordan does not feel compelled to take the initiative and approach the U.N."

Foreign Ministry legal experts are discussing means to implement the resolution and "maintain Jordan's proven record of strict adherence and respect for the U.N. charter as His Majesty King Hussein said last week," said another official, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

"Whatever we do, it will remain within the framework of the United Nations," he said.

Jordan, whose Red Sea port of Aqaba represents a lifeline for Iraq in the face of a sweeping international embargo and a naval blockade that is falling into place, will suffer enormously if it were to apply the sanctions, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday. He said the King could not move immediately to enforce sanctions. "Clearly, in terms of implementation, we just don't turn off a switch in our dealings with Iraq and Kuwait," he told reporters. "Jordan respects the U.N. mandate... but (sanctions) would bring our economy to a standstill."

Many analysts believe that Jordan is hoping for a peaceful resolution to the Gulf crisis soon and hence it may never actually have to implement the U.N. sanctions.

According to legal experts familiar with the workings of the United Nations, there could be a way out for Jordan if the Gulf crisis remains unresolved for long. The Kingdom can maintain its record of total respect for the United Nations charter and its obligations but need not undermine its own economic backbone if it uses a loophole represented in a precedent set with U.N. sanctions on South Africa in 1977," said an expert speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

The precedent, according to the expert, was set by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) when it made a collective approach to the Security Council that "the front-line" states whose economies are deeply entwined with that of South Africa be exempted from the sanctions call.

"Subsequently, there was a tacit understanding that some of the front-line states will be punished for dealing with South Africa, although no legal records were released to that effect," said the expert. "It is possible that the U.N. Security Council might prefer a similar approach made by the Arab League on behalf of Jordan."

He added, raising another puzzle whether Amman would resort to help from a forum whose 12 members have condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and some of whom were implicitly accused by the King of hampering his efforts for a peaceful solution to the Gulf conflict within an Arab umbrella.

In an interview with Australian television, the Crown Prince specifically referred to Article 50 of the U.N. Charter which implicitly provides for compensation for countries which could suffer economically as a result of implementing U.N. sanctions.

(Continued on page 4)

'Blockade' moves into place amid mine scare in Gulf

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — An Iraqi freighter was turned back Tuesday from the port at Dubai, and shipping sources said British and American warships were checking vessels to ensure against penetration of an embargo against Iraq.

A mine alert was posted for a while in a central Gulf channel but later was cancelled, a military source said.

Dubai port authorities refused to allow the Al Abid from entering port to load when it arrived in the early Tuesday morning, shipping sources said.

They said that another freighter called Al Baya had been waiting off Dubai for the last two days.

On the other side of the Arabian Peninsula, the Iraqi tanker Al Qadisiyah was still anchored off the Red Sea terminal of Yanbu after being turned away by Saudi authorities when it tried to load oil Sunday from the Trans-Saudi Iraqi pipeline.

Shipping executives, speaking on condition of anonymity, mentioned the British destroyers York contacting a Cypriot-flagged tanker called Glory that the sources said shuttled oil from Iraqi ports. Sources said the York was joined by an American warship in checking all sorts of vessels.

Reports from London Monday said that Britain has joined the United States in ordering its

warships in the Gulf to intercept any vessel trying to break the economic noose around Iraq. The British ministry of defence said the tanker contact was routine.

Iraq remained defiant despite the embargo measures.

The state-run newspaper Al Jumhuriya said Iraq knows how to thwart the administration of U.S. President George Bush, "how to foil its measures, penetrate its blockade, makes its troops taste death if they attack us and move the battlefield to where it (the United States) does not want or expect it to be."

Shipping sources said vessels had been alerted to keep away

Vessels wait outside Aqaba port

By Serene Hishara and P.V. Vivekanand

AMMAN — Over half a dozen vessels carrying cargo bound for Iraq and Jordan have dropped anchor outside the territorial waters of the Kingdom at the Red Sea port of Aqaba awaiting further orders from their owners before approaching the port to discharge the goods, shipping sources said. But it was not immediately known whether the action was taken in line with the international sanctions imposed against Baghdad for its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait since the possibility remained open that the cargo owners were demanding payment from Iraq before unloading Baghdad-bound goods, the sources added.

"None of the vessels is communicating with the port authorities," according to a source at a shipping company office in Aqaba. The vessels, some of them European and others Greek and flying different flags, "cut all

radio contact with the port after informing the authorities of their (geographic) location," said the source, speaking to the Jordan Times over the phone on condition of anonymity.

Several other sources confirmed the account, and one of them said "the accumulation of ships has occurred over the past week, two or three days after the (U.N. Security Council) sanctions vote."

None of the sources could provide any detail of the nature of the goods aboard the vessels on anchorage and which was going where.

Port officials meanwhile denied reports that the Jordanian officials had used "force" to unload wheat and sugar bound for Iraq from a Greek-owned Cypriot-flag ship. "There is no truth whatsoever to the reports," said a senior official at the Ports Corporation. "There were some problems related to payment for the cargo, and they have been sorted out," said the official, who preferred anonymity.

According to some other sources, one of

18,000-tonne bulk carrier, Amerved, which arrived in Jordanian territorial waters early August. The sources said the ship dropped anchor and after informing the port authorities of its location "cut all communications with shore." Subsequently, Iraqi officials sought Jordanian help, and the port authority sent an electronic technician aboard the ship to check the communication equipment, the sources said. "It was found that there was a fault in the communications which the technician fixed," said one source.

"Security personnel were posted around the Amerved, and the captain was asked to approach the ship, apparently after it emerged that the communications problem could have been deliberate."

"The vessel was towed in (which is a normal practice) but the captain refused to unload, arguing that he needed orders from the owners in Greece. In the next two days, a representative of the owners flew down to Aqaba and sorted things out, but only about 1,000 tonnes of 15,400 tonnes were discharged."

The problem, according to the source as well as port officials, was related to payment for the cargo.

kilometres on the shoreline from Aqaba and no loading activities were reported Tuesday.

A similar problem was also reported with a 80,000-tonne bulk carrier berthed at Aqaba since 1984 — at the height of the Iran-Iraq war — taking in grain from incoming freighters and discharging it to trucks bound for Iraq. The sources said a dispute arose between the ship's owners and the Iraqis over charter payments, and the captain of the ship, berthed at the main port at Aqaba, stopped all loading and unloading operations last week, shortly after the Security Council voted sanctions against Iraq.

The problem was settled through intervention by Jordanian authorities and the ship resumed loading and unloading operations three days later, the sources said.

"As of this morning, unloading operations of grain from the ship are normal," an official said. It was not immediately known whether any agreement was reached between the ship's owners and the Iraqi government.

Shipping officials said there was no

(Continued on page 5)

Israel says it is not part of 'blockade'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli officials on Tuesday urged Jordan to join the international embargo against Iraq, but Defence Minister Moshe Arens said Israel would not take action if Jordan ignored such pleas.

"There is no reason for us to interfere," Arens told Israeli Radio. "Israel is not part of the sea embargo declared by the United States. This is being carried out with American ships and European ships... we are not part of this."

U.S. continues Gulf build-up

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES raced to build up its military strength in Saudi Arabia Tuesday and the international community increased economic pressure meant to force Iraq to leave Kuwait.

U.S. President George Bush Monday told Defence Secretary Dick Cheney to return to the Gulf and reportedly telephoned Japanese Prime Minister Toshiko Kaifu. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday that Bush asked for increased Japanese financial aid to Middle East countries affected by the crisis.

Bush was to cut short his Maine vacation to return to Washington Tuesday for talks on the Gulf and

the budget deficit. The president was to receive a Defence Department briefing Tuesday on the military confrontation with Iraq's President Saddam Hussein.

Iraq took over Kuwait on Aug. 2 and the United States accuses it of planning to march on neighbouring Saudi Arabia next.

Syrian troops began arriving Tuesday to join U.S., British, Egyptian and other troops that were sent to Saudi Arabia.

The first Syrian units landed in the early morning, said diplomatic sources. They had no details on numbers or areas where the Syrians would be deployed.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 5)

Iran: Iraq should accept '75 pact before Aziz visit

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq has asked Iran to accept a visit for its foreign minister but Tehran wants to make sure first that Baghdad accepts a border treaty which President Saddam Hussein declared null and void in 1980, Parliamentary Speaker Mehdi Karrubi said Tuesday.

Tehran Radio said Karrubi was commenting on reports that Iraq's Tariq Aziz wanted to visit Iran.

"Such a request has been made by Iraq. From Iran's viewpoint, this would depend on Iraq's acceptance of the 1975 border treaty," Karrubi said according to the radio. He did not say when the Iraqi request was made.

Iran, which fought an eight-year war with Iraq, has conde-

nned Iraq's take-over of Kuwait 12 days ago and demanded an immediate and unconditional withdrawal.

Relations between the two countries had been easing until then. Last month in Geneva, Aziz met Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati for their first direct peace talks since a U.N.-arranged ceasefire ended the Iran-Iraq war two years ago.

The meeting came after Iranian leaders welcomed a new peace initiative by Saddam and both countries said chances had improved for a lasting peace.

Indirect peace talks held under U.N. auspices and had been deadlocked and a major stumbling block was the 1975 Algiers

(Continued on page 4)

Darawshe offers Iraq peace trip

TEL AVIV (R) — An Arab member of the Israeli parliament who supports Iraq in the Gulf crisis offered on Tuesday to travel to Baghdad on a peace mission. The offer by Abdul Wahab Darawshe, a veteran Knesset (parliament) deputy, underlined the depth of support for the Jewish state's most feared foe among the 700,000 Arabs in Israel and 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories. "I requested a meeting with Yitzhak Shamir to hear his position and to see if he wants to send a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein," Darawshe, head of the small Arab Democratic Party and its sole Knesset member, told Reuters.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected the proposal as "an exercise in futility."

"I don't think it is realistic. There is no place for such mediations," Avi Pazner said, ruling out a meeting with the prime minister. "Shamir is not available this week."

Darawshe, who broke from the Labour Party nine months before the 1988 parliamentary elections, Saturday became the first Knesset member to publicly express his support for Iraq following its takeover of Kuwait.

"We support the unity between Iraq and Kuwait as a positive step on the road to a comprehensive Arab unity and object to any foreign intervention to the Gulf," Darawshe said Tuesday.

He said he would fly to Iraq immediately if Shamir approved peace talks with Iraq but would scrap the idea if the prime minister rejected the initiative.

Darawshe, one of only six Arabs in the Knesset, made his statements amid overwhelming support for Iraq among Palestinians under Israeli rule.

Iraqi flags and pictures of Saddam appeared Tuesday in Nazareth, and hundreds of Palestinians have staged almost daily demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Troops in the occupied territories, where a Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule has raged for 32 months, have been ordered to quash pro-Iraqi demonstrations there as quickly as possible, the Hebrew-language daily Haaretz reported Tuesday.

Palestinians in the West Bank town of Ramallah said troops who had appeared to be striving to avoid Arab casualties in recent weeks responded fiercely to a march in support of Saddam Monday night.

A resident said soldiers fired tear-gas and rubber and plastic bullets without giving a mandatory warning to disperse.

The army's senior officer in the West Bank, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, denied any change in policy. "There is no change to the situation in the field... I can't point to anything

Gulf sea confrontation could come in 2 days

WASHINGTON (R) — With American ships and troops pouring into the Gulf region, U.S. television reported that the first confrontation of U.S. naval forces with Iraq could come in the next two days.

Warships accompanying the aircraft carrier Eisenhower in the Red Sea could in the next two days stop and board an Iraqi freighter headed for Agaba via the Suez Canal, NBC news reported late Monday. The freighter is loaded with small arms and ammunition bought in Poland, NBC reported.

U.S. Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams confirmed U.S. forces were monitoring Iraqi ship movements in the region, but would not say which ships were targets of the surveillance. The White House said U.S. forces will do whatever is necessary to enforce U.N.-approved economic sanctions against Iraq because of its Aug. 2

Levinger freed, vows to shoot again

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agoecies) — A leader of the Jewish settler movement released Tuesday after serving three months in prison for killing a Palestinian said he would not hesitate to shoot again.

"If I'm in a situation of danger again, I'll again open fire," said Moshe Levinger said on Israeli Radio, "I hope that next time, I will be more careful and I won't miss the target."

On Sept. 30, 1988, Levinger fired his pistol indiscriminately after Palestinians stoned his car, shooting to death an innocent bystander.

Hebrew merchant Kayed Salah, 42, has hit in the stomach while standing in front of his shoe store.

An Israeli court convicted Levinger last April of causing Salah's death through negligence, after the plea-bargained to reduce the charge of manslaughter. He was sentenced to five months in prison.

Levinger served only 92 days and was released early for "good behaviour," prison authority spokeswoman Shuli Meiri said.

He was greeted at the entrance to the Nir Minimum-security prison by dozens of supporters and two legislators from the ruling right-wing Likud party, who lifted him onto their shoulders and broke into dance, the national news agency Itim reported.

Members of the left-wing Mafam Party demonstrated outside the prison to protest Levinger's early release, scuffling with Levinger's supporters, it said.

Some 75,000 Jewish settlers live amid 1.7 million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Levinger, a champion

embassy compound in Damascus after the staff doctor pronounced him "physically and mentally okay" and able to travel.

"I am very, very happy," were the only words uttered by the 24-year-old Red Cross worker, appearing pale but cheerful, as he walked out of the Foreign Ministry just after midnight with the Swiss ambassador and Red Cross chief in Damascus.

Erriquez was handed over to Syrian security men in west Beirut late on Monday by a group calling itself the Palestinian Revolutionary Faction (PRF).

The same previously unknown group freed his Swiss colleague Emanuel Christen, who was kidnapped with Erriquez last Oct. 6 in the Lebanese port city of Sidon where they fitted with victims with artificial limbs, last Wednesday.

Erriquez was to be flown to embassy compound in Damascus after the staff doctor pronounced him "physically and mentally okay" and able to travel.

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Red Sea to halt any shipments of oil or other cargo leaving or entering Iraq, U.S. defence officials said. No ships were getting in or out of Iraqi territory and a few had already been diverted, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

"We have had two or three ships... that have turned away or been turned away or at least otherwise have not landed with their cargoes," Fitzwater said, adding that the ships did so without any direct clash with Western warships.

"We assess the impact of the embargo as excellent," Fitzwater said. President George Bush planned to interrupt his three-week holiday in Kennebunkport, Maine Tuesday night for a day of briefings on Wednesday in Washington.

The aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and its 80 warplanes could leave Norfolk, Virginia, for the Gulf this week, joining an

armada of more than 40 warships in or en route to the region, including three other carriers, officials said.

Four carriers would give a strike force of more than 300 fighters and bombers.

Defence officials said at least 5,000 U.S. troops were already in Saudi Arabia and that figure would swell to at least 50,000 in the coming weeks. The figure could go even higher in the months ahead, they added.

Joining the ground forces in Saudi Arabia were more than 100 air force F-15 jets fighters and F-16 attack aircraft.

Troops began arriving in Saudi Arabia last week after Bush agreed to a Saudi request.

Uncertainty surrounded the thousands of West Europeans and Americans detained in Iraq, Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, Abdul Amir Al Anbari, said Iraq would let all foreigners leave in a few days or weeks.

It said Salamah had planned to steal a car resembling a police vehicle, pack it with 30 kg of explosives and detonate it near government buildings as employees were leaving at the end of the work day.

The charge sheet said Salamah had received weapons and explosives training at a Fatah base in Algeria in December 1988.

Security forces arrested Salamah on May 29 after he crossed over the bridge from Jordan into the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The attack was to have taken place on June 7, the charge sheet said.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

'Trapped Westerners having good time'

PARIS (R) — Iraq's ambassador to France, Abdul Razzak Al Hashimi said Monday Westerners unable to leave his country were having a good time and a free holiday. "They are not held... believe me, they are enjoying the sun, and they are in the best hotels in Baghdad and they are having a very good time, a free paid vacation, that's what they are doing," he told a news conference. Hashimi, twice summoned to the French Foreign Ministry in recent days about the inability of the 530 French nationals in Iraq and Kuwait to leave, was answering questions about President Francois Mitterrand's statement last week that French under Iraqi control were effectively prisoners.

Norway's envoy to Iraq suffers attack

OSLO (R) — Norway's ambassador to Iraq has suffered a heart attack and Oslo has asked the Iraqi authorities for permission to send a plane to fly him home, the national news agency NTB reported Tuesday. It was not known whether 27 Norwegians trapped in Iraq would be allowed to leave on the same plane, if it is allowed in. Doctors, however, said Harald Lone, 61, would need to stay in hospital for about a week before he would be well enough to leave. The sick ambassador will probably be replaced Friday.

Egyptian tourism unaffected by crisis

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian official said Tuesday tourism was so far unaffected by the Gulf crisis. "There have not been any signs that tourism in Egypt has been affected in the current situation in the Middle East and the Gulf crisis," Ramzi Zagham, head of the state-run Egyptian Chamber of Tourism and Travel Agencies, told Reuters. He said the crisis, just as the summer season for Arab tourists was winding down, had not resulted in cancellations for the winter season favoured by Western tourists. But he predicted that if tension continued tourism could fall 10 per cent this winter and even more the following summer.

U.S. women driving in Saudi Arabia

NICOSIA (R) — American women with the U.S. military contingent in Saudi Arabia are driving vehicles despite a ban on female drivers in the kingdom, Gulf-based diplomats said Tuesday. The diplomats said the government had relaxed its rules to allow doctors on desert highways in the Eastern province. Women in Saudi Arabia are always veiled in public and seldom go anywhere unless accompanied by a male relative. As a concession to the Saudis, women staff officers would not work with their Saudi male counterparts, the diplomats said.

Pro-Iraqi rally fails to materialise

CAIRO (R) — Hundreds of Egyptian security men were deployed in central Cairo Tuesday but a scheduled pro-Iraqi demonstration failed to materialise. "Wake up Egyptians... with whom should we side: Iraq or America?" said a statement by the "Wafd Vanguard" group urging Egyptians to protest at Western intervention in the Gulf. Scores of state security officers and hundreds of plain clothes policemen and riot troops carrying sticks, shields and electric batons were deployed in a busy square in the heart of Cairo. But the demonstrators did not come.

Head of shrines backs King Fahd

NICOSIA (R) — The head of Islam's two holiest shrines, said by Iraq to be under foreign occupation, Tuesday supported King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for inviting foreign forces to defend the kingdom. "We back all your decisions to safeguard the security of the country and its citizens against evil and evil-doers," Sheikh Mohammad Ben Abdullah Al Sabee, president of the Grand Mosque in Mecca and the Prophet Mohammad Mosque in Medina said in a letter to Fahd.

Kuwait sent \$1b to West in early '90

BASLE (R) — Kuwaitis placed more than \$1 billion with major Western banks in the first quarter of 1990, boosting the emirate's wealth on deposit in the West to more than \$17 billion, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Wednesday. Commercial banks in major industrialised democracies and offshore financial centres, told the BIS, the central bankers' bank, the Kuwaiti deposits rose by \$1.32 billion in the first three months of this year to stand at \$17.59 billion at the end of March.

Red Cross renews appeal in Kuwait crisis

GENEVA (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) indirectly appealed to Iraq Tuesday to allow the organisation to carry on its work despite the Gulf crisis. "For more than 10 days the ICRC has been preoccupied with the Gulf crisis and its humanitarian consequences," ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga told a news conference. "It launches a pressing appeal that the dialogue the ICRC has begun with all the parties would intensify and that the ICRC's efforts of Aug. 2 would thus bear fruit so it can carry out its humanitarian mission," he said.

Sri Lanka sells tea to Iraq

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka continued to sell tea to Iraq for the second successive week despite U.N. trade sanctions against that country, officials and brokers said. Plantation Ministry Secretary R.S. Jayaratne said the government decided to allow tea to be sold to Iraq as it was a food commodity. Brokers said that Iraq bought less tea Tuesday than the average 500,000 kg bought at previous auctions. "It could be because of the shipping blockade," one broker said.

Raymond and Robert Atcheson

announce with deep regret

the demise of

Samaan Michael Layous

on 13 August, 1990.

He is survived by his wife Margaret Samaan Layous and his four children Raymond Layous Atcheson, Michael, Sameer and Salim Layous.

The funeral will be held at the Christian Cemetery in Amman Thursday 16 August, 1990 at 3:30 p.m.

Condolences will be held at the residence of Mr. Robert Atcheson between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 16, 17 and 18 August in the Safeway Shmeisani area, near the Al Mansour Mosque and the Al Walid Supermarket.

Funeral services will be held at the residence of Mr. Robert Atcheson between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 16, 17 and 18 August in the Safeway Shmeisani area, near the Al Mansour Mosque and the Al Walid Supermarket.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children's programme
17:30 Educational programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Cairo news message
18:30 Local programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Arabic programme
23:00 News in Arabic
23:40 Play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:05 S.O.S. Disputes
18:05 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 A Family for Joe
22:10 Documentaries "Sounds of Silence"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Challenger

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Switich, Tel. 810740
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 667757
Terzian Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623544
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 625543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772601
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654952

WEA: JER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It is a... moderate, in Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.
Min./max. temp. 18 / 29
Amman

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil Al Maridi 615338
Dr. Abdul Qader Lala 696048
Firas Pharmacy 661912
Perdows pharmacy 773336
Al Azzam pharmacy 637085
Neirouth pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yaacoub pharmacy 649435
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

REBID:
Dr. Radwan Sa'd (—)
Al Shara'a pharmacy (985339)

ZARQA:
Dr. Rabab Borini (—)
Khalaf pharmacy (985417)

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 82, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldun Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Akil Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642662
Malwa, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 6672779
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Indian, Al-Muasher 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafah 77111/26
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Azzam Hospital 674135

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)989732

IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)277221
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)914111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

18:00 Damascus (RJ)
18:05 Jeddah (RJ)
18:10 London (RJ)
18:15 Athens (RJ)
18:20 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
18:25 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 London (RJ)
18:35 Madrid (RJ)
18:40 Paris (RJ)
18:45 Rome (RJ)
18:50 Frankfurt (RJ)
18:55 Athens (RJ)
19:00 Jeddah (RJ

Fundamentalists blast foreign intervention in Saudi Arabia

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A new phase in Jordan's democratic experience began unfolding Tuesday, when the outlawed Islamic Tahrir party (Liberation Party) announced its pro-Iraq and anti-foreign intervention stand during a press conference.

Al Tahrir, which does not recognise the legitimacy of any of the Arab World's 21 governments, decided to "go public" and give further clout to the anti-foreign intervention stand which has been espoused by the Jordanian government and people almost unanimously, observers noted.

"It is the duty of all Muslim rulers to mobilise their armies immediately and fight the foreign armies which have come to the region," Abu Rushteh, the group's official spokesman told the press.

"If rulers hesitate to take such moves at this time, it is the duty of every Muslim to 'force' his ruler to take such action," Abu Rushteh added.

A party statement, made available to the press last week, had said that "any aggression on any Islamic country makes it imperative for all Muslim countries to fight the aggressor," Abu Rushteh also called for breaking diplomatic relations with

any country (foreign or non-Muslim), that moves troops into or attacks any Muslim country.

He said that any Muslim ruler who asks non-Muslims to intervene in an inter-Muslim affair is committing a "terrible and unforgivable crime." "To order Muslim troops to serve alongside foreign troops in the event of a war with another Muslim nation is 'even more unforgivable,'" Abu Rushteh said.

The spokesman referred to the unity of Iraq and Kuwait as a "positive" step in that it united two Muslim lands and in line with one of the declared aims of the group to unite all Muslim states.

"The Liberation Party," said Abu Rushteh, "does not support any ruler in the Muslim lands, because none of the ruler have adopted Islam as a complete way of life."

"However, the party supports any steps to unify Muslim lands, even when they are carried out by rulers of whom we do not approve," said Abu Rushteh.

In line with the concept of having one united Muslim country the party spokesman said that the wealth and resources of Muslim countries "belongs to all people in all Muslim countries."

Referring to the "Arab nation," Abu Rushteh said that

"this nation will free itself from those who ask for help from imperialist forces."

During introductory remarks the spokesman said that imperialist powers had divided the Arab-Muslim nation into separate states which espoused secularist ideals rather than Islamic ones and kept them weak and dependent on the imperialist powers.

Abu Rushteh said the insolence of the imperialist powers such as America, Britain and France was not acceptable to all the Muslim people.

The party has been working underground since its founders split from the Muslim Brotherhood movement in 1953 and Tuesday's press conference was the first public appearance of the group's spokesmen in Jordan.

The party advocates the establishment of one Muslim nation and the restoration of the caliphate system.

Asked if despite its rejection of the legitimacy of the current governments in the Arab World, the party would support those governments who stood against foreign intervention, the party spokesman said that although the party's basic position towards the existing governments had not changed, the current threat of foreign troops in the region was the most urgent and pressing issue.

Parliamentarians move to support and explain Jordan's position on Gulf crisis, internal front

AMMAN (J.T.) — Members of the Lower House of Parliament have urged France to adopt a fair-handed policy and support Iraqi and Jordanian just causes.

"France has been bound to the Arab World through various historical links and the Arabs have always looked at France as a European nation that advocates the causes of freedom, justice, fraternity and equality and backs the liberation of human beings from the bonds of slavery," said the parliamentarians in a memorandum they sent to French President Francois Mitterrand.

The memorandum, signed by Nayef Al Hadid, Ahmad Abbadi and Hisham Al Sharari referred to France's opposition to Washington's interpretation of the U.N. Security Council resolution with regard to the Gulf sanctions against Iraq, which proved Paris' independence, and said that such position is deeply respected by the Arabs.

"We respect and appreciate France's brave stand and look forward to further French support for the Arab just causes,"

the memorandum said.

Meanwhile, the chairman and members of the National Bloc in Parliament issued a statement Tuesday expressing appreciation of and support for His Majesty King Hussein's position towards the Gulf crisis.

The Jordanian people's position has been defined and there can be no change of heart towards the Gulf problem," said the statement.

It said that the Jordanians support their leader and work in unison to serve national causes.

The statement appealed to the members of the public to stand fast in the face of the psychological war being waged on the country, and the hostile propaganda directed against Jordan's military and economic structure.

It urged all men and women to join the civil defence centres to acquire military training and civil defence skills, and carry out first aid and other necessary work in times of conflict.

The memorandum also urged members of the public to refrain from hoarding food supplies and

appealed to all Jordanians to help increase national production to offset enemy plans and to rationalise spending and adapt to austerity.

The statement urged the Jordanian people to treat non-Jordanian Arabs with respect and affection, irrespective of their different countries' stand vis-a-vis Jordan or the Gulf crisis.

The statement saluted those Arab leaders who stood fast in the face of pressure and acts of blackmail and bribery, and chose to side by Iraq in its endeavours to repel aggression.

A statement was signed by Abdullah Ensour, Nayef Hadid, Saad Haddadin, Nawwaf Al Khawaldeh, Atta Al Shahwan, Hisham Al Sharari, Issa Reimouni, Mohammad Dardour, Taher Al Masri, Sultan Udwan, Mohammad Abu Alim, Nader Thubeirat, Ahmad Innab, Ziyad Al Shweih, Jamal Haddad, Samir Kassar, Abdullah Zureiqat, Nayef Abu Tayeh, Jamal Al Khreisha, Saad Serour, Faisal Al Jazi and Salameh Al Ghewiri.

Meanwhile a parliamentary panel set up to follow up the situation in the Arab Gulf region Tuesday decided to send cables to various parliaments in Arab and Islamic nations to explain the Jordanian Parliament's position with regard to the latest events in the Gulf and the American intervention.

The memoranda call on Arab and Islamic countries to adopt a unified position vis-a-vis the U.S. intervention which is designed to impose foreign domination on Arab wealth and call for solidarity in the face of the common threat.

The memoranda also discuss what the Jordan news agency, Petra, which reported the news, described as the ambiguity that surrounded the Cairo summit which had taken decisions thwarting the Arab League's endeavours to settle the Gulf issue.

The memoranda note that the foreign powers are determined to stop the Iraqis and the Arabs from acquiring sufficient power to regain their rights and protect their interests.

A statement at the end of the meeting, which was attended by House speaker Suleiman Arar, said that the speaker had been asked to pave the way for visits to Jordan by Iranian and Turkish parliamentary delegations to relay Jordan's views and discuss the Gulf crisis.

Arar later announced that he would hold a press conference Wednesday to talk about the situation and the Parliament's views with regard to the events in the Gulf.

In the statement the Parliament stressed the need for contacting the nine Arab states, which did not vote for the summit's resolutions in Cairo, to try to adopt a united stand vis-a-vis the ongoing events.

The parliamentary panel said it would contact various professional unions and organisations in Jordan to coordinate positions with regard to a programme designed to spread awareness among members of the public on domestic issues, the situation of supplies, civil defence and other issues in the country.

Trade federation, ESCWA sign cooperation agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) signed in Amman an agreement on cooperation in preparing joint studies on trade, industry and agriculture.

The agreement will benefit countries in the western Asian region, including Jordan.

Under the agreement, both sides will cooperate in working out projects for countries in western Asia and pave the way for exchanging consultations, expertise and information in several matters relevant to industry, trade and agriculture.

The agreement also provides for holding seminars and conferences by specialists to discuss topics related to regional cooperation in these fields and preparing joint projects.

The agreement was signed by ESCWA's executive secretary, General Tayseer Abdul Jabbar and Burhan Dajani, the federation's secretary-general.

Following the signing ceremony, Abdul Jabbar said that ESCWA was willing to cooperate with the federation and provide it with experts and researchers.

Speakers condemned the resolutions as part of American conspiracies against the Arab Nation.

Egyptian workers in Jordan form the bulk of nearly 175,000 non-Jordanians working and living in the Kingdom.

According to some estimates, the Egyptians number about 130,000. They, along with workers from Jordan's partners in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), enjoy special privileges like priority over other non-Jordanian Arabs seeking work in the country.

For example, an Egyptian pays JD 100 for an annual work permit fee compared to JD 300 for non-Arab workers.

Egyptians employed as farmer workers or nurses pay only JD 30 for their work permits.

Uncertainty continues over W. Europeans and N. Americans

Hundreds cross into Jordan

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Hundreds of Arabs, Asians, Africans, East Europeans and Latin Americans arrived in Jordan across the border from Iraq Tuesday while uncertainty continued over when and how Iraq intended to permit Western Europeans and North Americans to leave, officials said.

A total of 1,750 people, about one third of them Arabs — Egyptians, Sudanese, Yemenis, Lebanese, Syrians, Saudi Arabians and one Algerian — and the rest Asians, Eastern Europeans and Latin Americans — Filipinos, Indians, Pakistanis, Thais, Yugoslavs,

Chileans and others — had crossed by late Tuesday afternoon, official sources said. "There are hundreds more coming," commented one official.

In the meantime, a group of about 280 Indians — 210 of them from a group of 700 pilgrims visiting Iraq when Baghdad sent its army across the border to Kuwait and the rest who found their own way to Jordan from Kuwait — was flown home Tuesday evening aboard an Air India Boeing 747.

Two other similar chartered planes are expected to arrive here this week to airlift rest of the pilgrim group and others who may reach Amman on

their own from Iraq, embassy officials said.

Mounting anxiety at the possibility of war has escalated worries over India's 180,000 expatriates remaining in Kuwait and Iraq, says the Indian civil aviation minister, Muarraf Khan, who arrived in Amman on Monday.

The purpose of Khan's visit was to hold talks with officials and his Jordanian counterpart to find ways of facilitating travel for his people. Though Khan was unable to provide a figure of how many were expected to leave, he said that he did not expect a large number of Indian expatriates to leave Iraq or Kuwait. "Our main concern is

for the women and children," Khan said.

The result of the meetings in Jordan was that the Kingdom would extend all facilities and assistance to Indians transiting through Jordan, including the waiver of visa requirements.

The Philippine ambassador to Jordan, Pacifico Castro, said a group of 550 Filipinos were gathered in Amman to take flights out Wednesday and Friday aboard special Philippines Airways flights. "We have another 60,000 of our nationals in Kuwait and Iraq, and we are arranging for their flights home in the next few weeks," he told the Jordan Times.

Egyptians demonstrate against foreign forces in Saudi Arabia

By Abdul Latif Al Korashi
Special to the Jordan Times

ZARQA — Thousands of Egyptian nationals living in Jordan demonstrated in the streets of Zarqa Tuesday calling for an end to foreign intervention in Arab affairs and for an immediate withdrawal of American forces from Saudi Arabia.

The marchers carried posters condemning the American invasion, raised portraits of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and hailed the brave Jordanian stand in support of Iraq in the face of the common enemy.

The marchers also chanted slogans in support of His Majesty King Hussein's endeavours to contain the Arab Gulf crisis.

The demonstration, which started at the Municipal Stadium, moved along the main streets of

Zarqa. At least 6,000 non-Jordanian Arabs, mostly Egyptians, took part in the march which lasted for three hours.

In Tafleeh, another march, organised by Egyptian workers in Jordan, was staged Tuesday in a show of solidarity with the Iraqi people.

The marchers passed through the main streets of Tafleeh chanting anti-American slogans and calling for an end to foreign intervention in Arab affairs.

At least 1,500 Egyptians took part in the march. The crowd chanting pro-Iraqi slogans carried portraits of King Hussein and the Iraqi president.

Several speakers attacked the Cairo summit resolutions, which they said, gave legitimacy to the presence of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia.

Civil defence gears up for active role

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Civil Defence officials, not discounting the possibility of hostilities breaking out in the Gulf, have started taking measures to guard against any such possibility and to protect the population from any fallout of a Gulf war.

On Sunday, His Majesty King Hussein issued directives to the government to train people on civil defence operations. His directives came a call he made on Jordanians to intensify their efforts to protect the homeland and national unity.

In a press conference held Tuesday at the Civil Defence Department (CDD) headquarters in Amman, CDD Chief Major-General Afif Ghul called on Jordanians to shoulder their responsibility in ensuring their safety.

General Ghul said that a higher

council for civil defence has been formed. The council is headed by the Minister of Interior and includes in its membership the director of the Public Security Department (PSD), the director of Civil Defence, a senior army officer and all ministries undersecretaries.

He said that the council would be responsible for outlining a general plan for each ministry and department. However, he said, that many civil defence duties are the responsibility of the people.

"Conservation in the use of water, food, the purchase of a first aid kits and five extinguishers are the responsibility of citizens," he said.

While the higher council sets the general policies, the district governments carry it out, he added. He said that his department advocated the concept of comprehensive civil defence where "every citizen has a duty."

Asked if public shelters were ready to take people in case of air raids, he said that that was the responsibility of governorates and he could only agree that shelters have been neglected for a long time. He noted that there was a lack in the number of home shelters.

(Continued on page 4)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

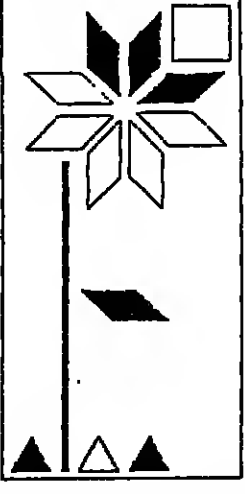
- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Exhibition of paintings by 10 Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery.
- Art exhibition by Samir Al Shurafa at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURES

- Lecture on the political life in Jordan by Senator Ali Abu Nawwar at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.
- Lecture entitled "Archaeology and Traditional Architecture" at ACOR — 7:00 p.m.

Under the Patronage of
Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein
IN COOPERATION WITH NOOR AL HUSSEIN FOUNDATION
AND THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
AND FUNDED BY U.S. AID

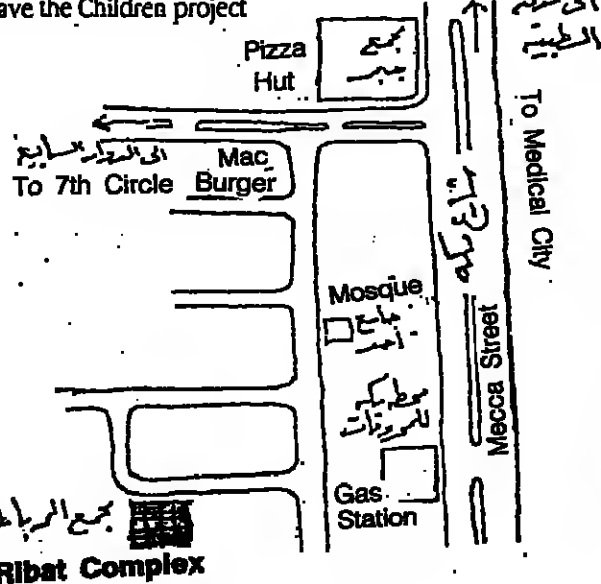
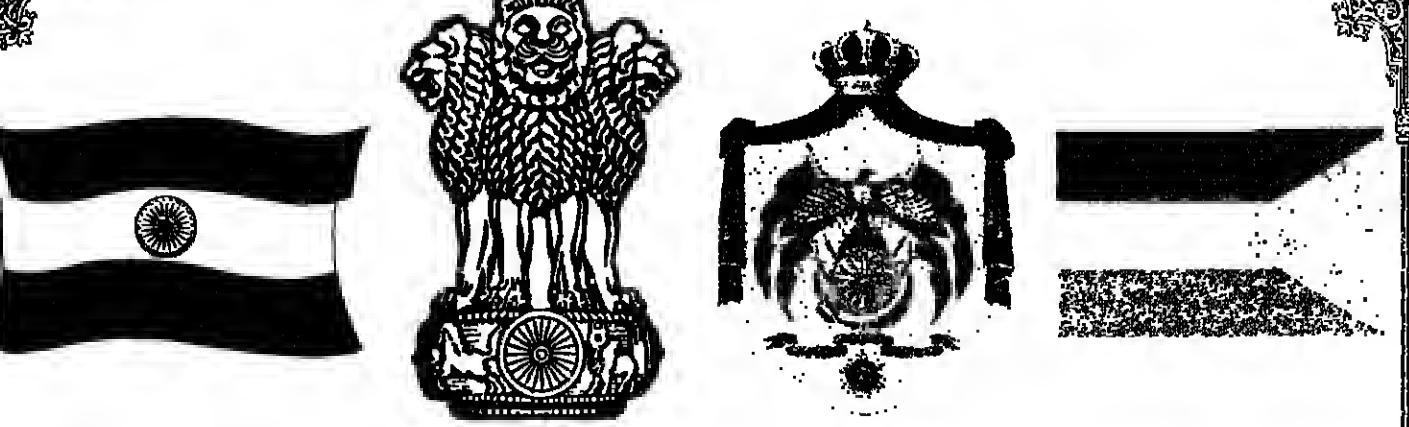
THE HANDICRAFT
SUMMER EXHIBITION





quilts leather handbags beachbags
collector's dolls picture frames olive oil soap

Thursday, 9 - Saturday 18 August, 1990
11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Al Ribat Center

Jordan River Designs
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सत्यमेव जयते

JORDAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY
COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Jordan Phosphate Mines Company Arab Potash Company

WISH

A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY
TO THE PEOPLE OF INDIA
MARKING
SUCCESSFUL GATEWAY TO
PROSPEROUS NINETIES

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975
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Gulf war II and media images

NOT since 1980, the year in which the Gulf war broke out, did so many journalists show up in town at the same time. Most Jordanians welcome and value their presence amongst us, especially at this difficult and sensitive time. Particularly welcoming of this elite international group, though, are fellow Jordanian hacks, to use the popular term for journalists in America and Britain.

Hacks, the word, means many things. But in its relationship to journalists it has only a small range of meanings. From "a horse let out for common hire" to "a horse worn out in service" to "one who forfeits individual freedom of action or professional integrity in exchange for wages or other assured reward; esp. a writer who works mainly for hire."

Where we and they, our Arab and international colleagues, fit in those definitions, and whether they include all print and other media people (men and women), we do not know. What we do know is that we all are in the same boat, and everybody is trying to put in some hard work and effort to inform the world's public opinion.

Some may do it better than the others. But we all have our different ways in looking at the news and the analysis and in writing them to our listeners, viewers and readers.

Differences in presenting the news diminish or grow when the reports and tapes reach their final destinations. It then becomes a decision for the editors back home to fit their copies in with the overall picture that any given country or society may have formulated of the particular situation.

Reporters everywhere often complain that their pieces end up to be quite different from what was originally intended. Among the pool of journalists who have been reporting out of Amman, such complaints have not been unheard of, especially from American and some other European reporters.

Desk editors in New York and Washington and London may be too busy interpreting and accommodating their governments' and public opinions to make a good use of their reporters' work onto their front pages. Or it is also common for those editors to think that the world begins and ends with the political situation in their countries, and to play their media images accordingly.

Needless to say that the strong media presence in Jordan has had a positive impact on necessary attempts to give the West and the rest of the world the other side of the story. But much more needs to be done in order to explain to them that the problem in the Gulf is just a pocket-book crisis. The whole international community has to understand that it is infinitely easier and safer to pay \$1.50 for a gallon of petrol than to lose oil and endanger world peace and security altogether.

It is imperative to understand that Gulf war II (the first lasted eight years and claimed the lives of over a million human beings) would be a real catastrophe.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A rejection of Saddam Hussein's initiative to end the Gulf Crisis on the part of the United States and Israel was expected under the present circumstances and as the war drums in the West are being beaten, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. Both are declared enemies of the Arab Nation and both would do anything in their power to keep the Arabs weak and divided, the paper said. But what about a European nation like France which has maintained strong ties with the Arab World, and what about the European Community of nations which have always supported right and justice? Asks the paper. We want to see the Europeans trying to solve the problem and not to further complicate matters, and we would like China and the Soviet Union to help in this endeavour, the paper hoped. It said that Moscow is regrettably under the spell of Washington, and is restricted in its actions, but still it can take a stand to deter others from complicating the situation, and can help impose international legitimacy at all times. Saddam Hussein's initiative, added the paper, is viewed by the peace-loving people as a means of restoring stability and peace throughout the Middle East region. This initiative is also a way of harnessing the U.S.-Zionist-imperialist drive to impose hegemony on the Arabs and to bring destruction to their land, the paper noted. It said for their part, the Arab masses are determined to sacrifice their souls in defence of their soil and in kicking out of the invaders from their territory.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily cautions readers to be careful about spending and urges them to rationalise their consumption under the present circumstances and in view of the looming dangers. Bader Abdul Haq says that no one wants to see invaders coming into Arab land imposing their will on us, and therefore, we are to make ready for all eventualities and for all events by starting to economise and to avoid hoarding of food supplies. One must be ready to confront the enemy by living within his own means and accepting simple life, and one should give up excessive spending and make ready to deal with more difficult times ahead of us, the writer adds. He criticises those citizens who rush to the shops and stores trying to buy as much food supplies as possible, and in quantities far exceeding their needs for weeks to come. He says that difficult times are a trial period for the people who should be reasonable in their behaviour, in their life style and in dealing with circumstances. To show love for one's country requires sacrifice and reason, and also sensible reaction to the events, says the writer, because he adds all of us are threatened and all of us need to cooperate to fend off the danger.

By deciding to intercept all Iraqi vessels and those carrying supplies to Iraq on the open seas, Washington has thus involved itself in very dangerous position and taken the Gulf region into an explosive stage, said Al Dustour Arabic daily Tuesday. The result of such rash action, said the paper, can only bring about more dangers and further risks not only to the Gulf area but to those involved in the current crisis and foreign powers.

Economic Forum

Arabs need to sell oil more than West's need to buy it

By Dr. Abdalla Maki

Any neutral, fair and objective observer who went through some of the leading articles and commentaries of American and other Western media during the last two weeks can easily come to the conclusion that Mr. Bush has over-reacted to the take-over of Kuwait by Iraq. Western media subjected Mr. Bush to a dreadful amount of instigation which no normal person can tolerate without dancing to the cries of war made by the media. Readers who may dispute or doubt that must read, for example, the article titled "U.S. can and must stop Saddam" written by Ms. Karen E. House in the Wall Street Journal on Aug. 6, 1990 (p6). In this extraordinarily fiery article, Ms. House (the vice president, International, of Dow Jones & Co., publisher of the Wall Street Journal) called for the blood of President Saddam even if he pulls the Iraqi forces out of Kuwait! Obviously, the very highly charged atmosphere which accompanied the Kuwait

crisis was an opportunity taken by some very bad-intentioned journalists and columnists to promote certain non-economic ends and objectives under an economic guise. The main theme they wickedly and immorally exploited was that Saddam is threatening the free flow of oil at tolerable prices, which is a vital interest to the West, or so goes the argument of the instigation mongers. This is truly rubbish. To all Arab oil producing countries, including Iraq, oil is a staple export commodity that must be exported. If Iraq, or any other oil producing Arab country, does not export its oil, its economy will be crippled. The fact that Bush administration chose to force a ban on oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait proves this viewpoint beyond doubt. If the free flow of oil is a vital interest to the West, it is more so to Arab countries, including Iraq. Arabs produce oil for the sole purpose of selling it because otherwise

they hurt themselves more and before all other parties. And they must sell it to the world. But it does not really matter to whom they sell it. Even if they sell oil to China, Taiwan, South Africa, etc, they end up selling it to the West from a technical and practical point of view. Economic analysts all over the world know very well that the world oil market is a closed market and that it is almost a perfect one or very close to that. This implies first, that oil prices throughout this market are either identical or very close to each other and, second, any quantities of oil delivered to any part of this market are automatically delivered to all parts of it. Oil sold by, say, Arabs to, say, a country in the East, say Korea, frees a corresponding quantity to be made available for another buyer, say, U.S.A. or Canada. Arabs, therefore, sell their oil to the West under all circumstances; they can do nothing else with it. Consequent-

ly, it must be said that the continued, free and smooth flow of Arab oil to the West is a vital Arab interest. One-sided arguments like the one produced by commentators as Ms. House are not only rubbish but must be camouflage for other, mostly political, dubious and devious aims. The other side of the misleading argument that the price of oil has to be tolerable is also senseless and does not stand serious reasoning. The price of oil must be either low (\$10-14 for example), fair (\$20-24) or very high (\$50). The low price is not sustainable because oil importers tend to overcome oil at these low prices. Demand is thus boosted and the price is bid up. Alternatively, producers are depressed, the price edges up, and tends to move to the fair level, that is the level justified by economic criteria. The market itself will not tolerate an unfair price. For opposite reasons, a high price (\$50) is not sustainable as

well. Producers tend to over-produce and/or consumers cut their demand and, as experience shows, energy-saving policies are applied while development of alternative energy sources marches on. Of course, this is not theoretical formulation but is, as you must know, the lesson of the eighties. This is why oil producers dread high oil prices as importers do and have opposed them as enthusiastically as, or even more than them. In either case, low or high, oil prices tend to move towards the fair, that is tolerable, level and stay there or fluctuate around it in line with the fluctuations in demand and supply. Thus all the verbal gimmicks relating to the tolerable and free flow of oil are dubious arguments which do not stand logical tests and must conceal other objectives. The continued and smooth free flow of Arab oil to the West is a vital Arab interest, not less than being a vital interest to the West. The need

of Arabs to produce and sell oil to the West is more than the need of the West to buy (Arab) oil. Of course there were times, and there may be more times, when oil flow is disrupted. But that is temporary and hurts Arab interests as much as it might hurt Western interests, vital or not. But the reason in this case will be political. The main and permanent bone of contention between the Arab World and the West, which has been sparking dispute is the unsettled Palestinian issue. The settlement of this issue and not waging wars against this or that Arab country is what really guarantees perpetual free flow of oil at tolerable prices. Wars only create new bones of contention that lead again and again to oil disruption or threaten the free flow of oil at tolerable prices. Why does the West fail to understand or insist to ignore this simple point? Ask the media, like the Observer of London, and certain Western authors, like K.E. House.

Camping

By Ali Malhas

The writer, a Jordanian businessman based in Amman contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.

MANY generations in our perturbed region, have been through various types of complex and rather inexplicable versions of continuous turmoil. The company has always ensured that if one dispute is resolved, an immediate contingency plan is installed to bring the situation to square one of the original problem.

Consequently, we became some what perplexed experts in politics, geo-politics, buffer zones, stalemates, conflicting interests, and so on and so forth. Amidst the confusion, one eminent fact stood conspicuous, which we, as the rest of the world, respected and accepted, "bi-camp world control". We were well aware that we had to provide our allegiance to either, in order to be. Both camps were in dire need of our region's ground riches to sustain their economies, yet they knew in essence, that neither one could solely control this precious region. As a result our area's geography had to undergo a bismar-

kian network that would allow both camps spheres of influence and would sustain a delicate and an even flow of oil to both, the Eastern satellites and the Western industries. Such triangles of powers were Israel, Turkey and Iran, on one hand, and Egypt, Syria and Iraq on the other. Meanwhile, and to safeguard against a Syrian Iraqi unity that could pose as a serious threat, the two countries were kept apart despite their common grounds, both Arabs and belonging to the same camp? Suddenly, Gorbachev's perestroika and glasnost, emerged and disrupted some seventy years of communist criteria thus inducing a rapid

deterioration of the East camp, and an ultimate company's success and control. Jubilations reverberated all over the globe and the eagle soared high. One by one, international conflicts were being resolved, and a noticeable amount of restructuring is taking place. As one camp prevailed and the other vanished, all the existing geopolitical patterns had to be amended and double agents to be rendered redundant? The necessity of a policeman in our region is no longer valid and the company once again erroneously disregarded our region's demand for a just and honourable peace, and undermines the audible pan Arab nationalistic calls. Pales-

time and Lebanon, mere trivialities and can wait? What a solemn mistake! As a result of this arrogant policy, now we live in a serious crisis, one which threatens the company's oil. This triggers an immediate and an overwhelming political manipulation scheme and a stunning military build up. Finally the policeman had to play the policeman role and is in direct control of the region. Uncle Sam, once again is leading his soldiers astray defending the Arab's honour? G. I. Joe is here to stay and will never go. In conclusion, my fellow Arab brethren and irrespective of your colour or religion, for

the nuclear so called deterrent will not wipe the difference, it is clear and quite evident, that the main crux is our oil, do not be fooled by the company's pledge to defend any Arab regime. The camp is there to protect its interests, and in doing so each and every one of us is dispensable. How do we tackle this volatile situation? I see two predominant solutions. The first is very easy and fast, we should discard our identities and apply for green cards thus becoming more brilliant stars on the flag. The other is extremely difficult and could cost us our useless lives, to stand tall with each other strong and united and take what is rightfully ours.

'Iraq sanction move in United Nations court'

(Continued from page 1)

"We are under pressure from all sides... (from) those who want to tell us how to conduct our affairs and indeed subjectively with the situation to our east and Israel to the west," he said in the interview. Crown Prince Hassan said the Kingdom, which respects the U.N. Charter and considers its "resolutions as mandatory... will suffer enormously when it applies sanctions." He pointed out that other countries, including Turkey, have sought compensation under Article 50 of the U.N. Charter when sanctions are applied.

"Even Sri Lanka is screaming..." the Crown Prince said, referring to an announcement by Colombo that it would disregard the sanctions since its tea exports to Iraq represents one of the major foreign exchange revenues for the island. There is little doubt that Jordan

holds the central key, perhaps the only one, to any reasonable success in the international sanctions against Iraq since Baghdad cannot hope to use the Gulf as a channel for exports and imports in the face of the naval blockade which is soon becoming a reality. Turkey has closed its borders for transit of goods to Iraq and the Syrian-Iraqi border remains closed since 1982. That leaves Jordan's Aqaba as the only route left open for Iraq, which used the Red Sea port extensively during the eight years of war with Iran.

Enforcing the sanction resolution to the letter against Iraq, a major trade partner of Jordan, could not only undermine the faltering steps that the Kingdom gained and consolidated in the past 18 months, but will also deliver a stunning blow to hopes expressed by senior officials and businessmen

that the country, straining under an \$8.4 billion foreign debt burden, could be on the way to economic recovery, according to most economic analysts.

Iraq, which bought JD 124 million worth of Jordanian products — mostly agriculture and light industrial items — representing 40 per cent of all exports of the Kingdom in 1989, very much remains an export market for the Kingdom, particularly that many Jordanian industries are oriented towards the Iraqi consumer and ongoing efforts to diversify their markets will take several more years to bear real fruit. Furthermore, any curtailing of Jordan's exports to Iraq will contribute as much as 10 per cent to the growing unemployment in the Kingdom.

In addition, port activities and transport would suffer as much loss as 70 per cent if Jordan applied the

sanctions, economists said. Iraq used Aqaba for part of its oil exports, mainly to Brazil, during the eight-year war, but, according to analysts, indications from Baghdad point to a decision by Iraq that it could manage without any oil exports for some time.

Jordan bought Iraqi products worth \$214.7 million in 1989, almost 90 per cent of it in oil, according to statistics. In theory, Jordan, if it falls in line with the U.N. sanctions and bans imports from Iraq, there should not be a cash for the imported Iraqi oil; Baghdad is repaying its debts, incurred during the war years.

When Iraq and Iran went into a ceasefire in August 1988, the Iraqi debts to Jordan stood at \$800 million in government-to-

government dealings and about \$350 million to the private sector. Since then, most of the private sector debt has been paid off, and now Iraq owes about \$320 million in official debts to Jordan, and is paying in monthly consignments worth about \$30 million to \$35 million in oil.

"In essence, switching from Iraq to another oil source will mean that the Kingdom will have to produce hard currency worth \$30 million to \$35 million every month," noted a senior Finance Ministry official.

U.S. stand

What is left unsaid by the United States, which is championing the push for anti-Iraq international sanctions, is how Washington would react to countries which refuse to tow its line.

However, in the case of Jordan,

there are sure that Jordan will respect its commitment to the U.N. Charter and impose the sanctions," said a senior American official. "We do understand Jordan's position and we are also sure that if properly presented to the U.N. body there would be many willing ears to listen."

Israel said Tuesday it was not "part of the international embargo" on Iraq and that while it would like Jordan to join the siege against Iraq, it will not launch any military moves against the Kingdom.

But few appeared to take the Israeli "assurance" seriously. The King himself has said that Israel may not be involved in the Gulf crisis in the initial stages because it may alienate the Arab and Islamic states supporting the sanctions move but the Jewish state may come in at a later stage.

Civil defence seeks more role

(Continued from page 3)

ters, "not only because of citizens' negligence" but also because municipalities enforcing the building codes overlooked the requirements for the building of shelters. Ghul said that the department will embark on a campaign to train more people on civil defence duties. "Last year (1987) the Civil Defence Department trained 16,688 people on civil defence matters," he said, adding that people will be trained in the provision of first aid, rescue operations, fire fighting and managing people under emergencies.

Asked whether factories were equipped with early warning systems in case of fire, he said that only 18 out of 2,000 were equipped. He said the system requires in addition to the electronic equipment that relays the message to the department, a man to trigger the alarm.

He said his department would soon start a media campaign to inform people of the physical dangers inherent in chemical warfare, but said that his department was not fully prepared to provide people with gas masks against chemical weapons.

Gen. Ghul said: "There is no country that provides its people with masks for every citizen. Besides masks are only useful for the

period of three years." However, Ghul said that his department was currently evaluating a locally-manufactured mask that would be afforded by people. He did not wish to elaborate. He added that masks on their own were not enough, since some gases affect human skin.

Former CDD chief Khalid Tarawneh confirmed masks were easy to make and could be manufactured locally and at a low cost. He said he had in the past asked for 250,000 masks but that his request was not met apparently for financial reasons.

Also Tuesday Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Amin chaired a meeting for Amman Civil Defence Council.

Amin said that for civil defence purposes the governorate of Amman was divided into 20 districts and that each district would have rescue and fire fighting units headed by the chiefs of local municipal councils.

He said that the council also decided to activate the people army to take its role in defence of the country. The governor stressed the role of people in this regard and urged citizens not to be influenced by rumours and not stockpile on foodstuffs, since food is available in sufficient quantities.

Iran: Iraq should accept pact

(Continued from page 1)

giving Iran sovereignty over the eastern half of the Shatt Al Arab border river.

Tehran says the accord is inviolable. Baghdad has repudiated the pact, saying it was made under duress, and called for restoration of Iraqi control over the entire waterway which is its main outlet to the Gulf.

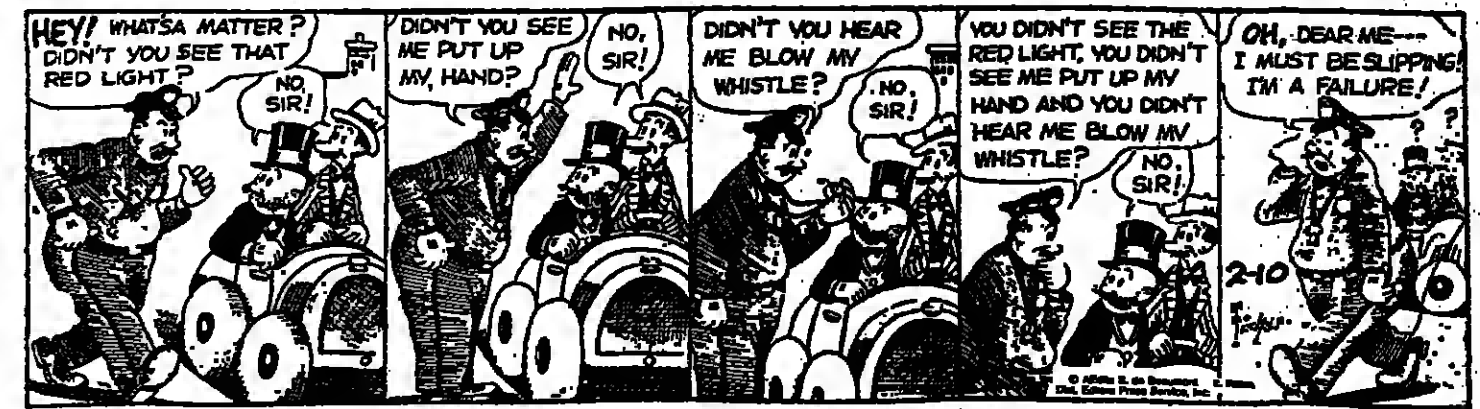
Iran meanwhile rejected Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's proposal to link a settlement of the Gulf crisis with resolution of a

border dispute with Iran, Tehran Television reported.

The broadcast quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sarmadi as saying that "linking the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iran to other international issues corresponds neither to international norms nor to Iraq's alleged commitment to United Nations Resolution 598."

In a statement Sunday, Saddam suggested that all problems of occupation in the Middle East be resolved together.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Big powers disown Gulf blockade

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) Several members of the U.N. Security Council, including some U.S. allies, have disowned themselves from Washington's naval actions in the Gulf, saying their own ships were there to monitor U.N. sanctions and not to enforce them through a blockade, council sources said.

The council, which last week passed stringent economic sanctions against Iraq, met for closed-door consultations on Monday. It was not expected to take any immediate action on the Gulf crisis, but as one source said, "we think (the U.S.) got the message."

In answer to questions, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said a blockade could not be considered a U.N. action but he said countries had the right to invoke U.N. charter provisions on "self-defence."

But he did not comment on when actions relating to "self-defence" impinge on action that necessitate U.N. authorisation under international law. Several council members were reported to have been disturbed by U.S. assertions that Washington was legally entitled to interdict Iraqi ships in order to enforce the stringent sanctions passed by the council.

They urged a council committee, which includes all members of the 15-nation body, to discuss compliance with sanctions by the end of the week.

Canada, France and Soviet Union were reported to have said they were monitoring the Gulf but at this time not taking any unilateral action, the sources said. Malaysia said sanctions first should have a chance to take hold and Cuba again castigated the United States for its actions, the sources added.

"A lot of us feel there is no jurisdictional base in the U.N. resolution on sanctions beyond asking a ship the nature of its cargo and are warning against doing anything hasty," another council source said.

The United States and Britain have ordered warships in the Gulf to intercept and board any vessel trying to break the U.N.-sponsored sanctions against Iraq for its take-over of Kuwait Aug 2. Other nations such as France have sent warships or enhanced their presence in the Gulf.

The Bush administration has been reluctant to call the blocking of Iraqi commerce on high seas a blockade, which is tantamount to declaring a state of war.

Echoing Secretary of State

James Baker, the United States justified the naval operation under Kuwait's formal request for a U.N. economic embargo on Iraq and Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, which accords nations the right to defend themselves as well as the right to request assistance from others.

Kuwait formally sent a letter, dated Aug 12, to Romanian Ambassador Arel Dragos Munteanu, this month's council president, saying it was exercising its rights under Article 51 and had "requested some nations to take such military or other steps as are necessary to ensure the effective and prompt implementation of Security Council Resolution 661 (on sanctions)."

India may seek protection from the Security Council for the staggering blow to its economy from the embargo on Iraq, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

In its report, The Hindu, a conservative daily, cited an article of the U.N. Charter providing "mutual assistance in carrying out the measures" adopted by the council.

Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral, meanwhile, left for Moscow Tuesday where he will meet his Soviet and West German counterparts, and later will fly to the United States, apparently to

discuss India's oil import problem.

Petroleum Minister M.S. Gurupadaswamy has said India must find alternative energy sources. Kuwait and Iraq supplied 40 per cent of India's oil imports.

India buys about \$4 billion of petroleum a year. The oil crisis comes at a time when its foreign currency reserves have fallen to what international experts described as a dangerously low level, just enough to cover one month's imports.

India's reaction to Iraq's take-over of Kuwait has been muted. The Indian embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, said about 320 Indians who had escaped across the border were being flown home Tuesday, the Hindustan Times reported.

The Gulf problem has created a separate economic crisis in the west coast of Kerala, where the large Muslim community has supplied most of the Indian expatriates working in the Middle East.

The Press Trust of India reported that remittances have dried up from the Gulf, depriving Kerala of a major source of income. It said the Kerala report remittances of about \$180 million a year, but more likely goes unreported.

Gulf crisis produces war of words not spoken

By Laurence McQuillan
Reuters

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine — For U.S. President George Bush and his key aides, the confrontation with Iraq in the Gulf has produced a war of words not spoken.

While Bush is willing to heap personal attacks on Iraqi President Saddam Hussein — accusing him of brutality and of lying — the words "blockade" and "hostage" do not pass his lips in discussing the crisis.

For diplomatic reasons, those two words have been stricken from the vocabulary of the president and members of his administration.

Despite the fact that some Americans in Iraq have been rounded-up and detained in a hotel, a strict ban has been imposed on the word "hostage."

American officials acknowledge privately that they fear the use of the word would only make the situation worse.

If the status of those being held against their will were to become that of hostages, the positions of the governments in Washington and Baghdad would harden — with clear winners and losers. It would undercut Washington's ability to seek their freedom because of Bush's high-profile policy against negotiating with hostage takers.

If their status remains murky, their chances of eventually gaining freedom improves, U.S. officials believe.

When Secretary of State James Baker was asked about hostages Sunday, he defended the administration's refusal to utter "hostage."

"The Iraq government has not said they can leave if you will do this and so," he said on the ABC programme "This Week with David Brinkley."

"So that's why we do not call them hostages," he said. A day earlier, he told reporters he did not want to use "a word like that."

The word "blockade" car-

ries complex implications, as well. Under international law, a blockade is an act of war. When reporters toss questions at President Bush about the U.S.-led efforts to block Iraqi oil from passing through the Straits of Hormuz, he resorts to legalities as quickly as possible.

"We were determined to fulfil the obligations that we have under Chapter VII of the United Nations," Bush said on Sunday after emerging from a church service.

Under the economic sanctions approved by the U.N. General Assembly, member nations are authorised to enforce the embargo on trade with Iraq and Kuwait, which it occupied Aug. 2.

Later, when again asked about a naval blockade, Bush said: "We felt that Chapter VII gave us broad authority, working in conjunction with others."

At a Saturday news conference, Bush said the word "blockade" might upset some of the countries who back

sanctions on Iraq. "So why do that?"

"I just am not one who flamboyantly believes in throwing a lot of words around. I'm more interested in action," he added.

The authority to "blockade" is erected on soft legal ground. Other members of the Security Council do not believe the 13-0 vote provides the legal basis for the use of naval force, and argue that an additional vote would be required.

Baker Sunday became the administration's advocate for a substitute word — "interdiction."

"Let's not use the word 'blockade'," Baker said in a response to a question. "Let's simply say that we now have the ability, the legal basis, for interdicting those kinds of shipments."

He said "the legitimate government of Kuwait" had requested help — a move that would activate another section of the U.N. charter to justify ways of enforcing the embargo.

Ships wait outside Aqaba

(Continued from page 1)

definite indication whether the vessel was on anchor outside Jordan's territorial waters were holding back because of the international sanctions on Iraq or awaiting payment guarantees. "Most likely, payment seems to be the answer since it has been nine days since the U.N. voted the sanctions and there was enough time for any vessel to divert its route away from Aqaba if the idea was not to offend the cargo," said an official.

Egyptian authorities meanwhile discounted reports that they were blocking the passage through Suez Canal of ships destined for Aqaba if it was found that they were carrying cargo bound for Iraq. An official statement issued in Cairo, which has joined the American-led sanctions against Baghdad, said Egypt re-

mained committed to the Constantine agreement governing passage through the Suez Canal. The agreement stipulates that Egypt would not allow ships belonging to or bound for any country at a state of war with Egypt to pass through the canal. Additionally, Egypt has also been denying nuclear-powered ships to transit through Suez citing the proximity of three major population centres along the route — Suez, Alexandria and Ismailia. However, Cairo has bent the rules to help the United States.

Some sources reported "anomalous" Egyptian naval activity on the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba, and it was not immediately known whether it was related to a possible blockade of the Gulf, in a move to prevent Iraqi exports and imports.

'Blockade' moves into place

(Continued from page 1)

from a channel in the Shah Allam Shoals in the central Gulf since the Iraqi vessel was seen there Monday. Iran mined shipping channels during its eight-year war with Iraq.

The London-based Lloyd's shipping intelligence unit confirmed that the Middle East navigation aids service had issued a navigation warning Monday "after the U.S. navy observed an Iraqi freighter engaging in suspicious activity south of Shah Allam Shoal."

A U.S. military source in Dubai said a helicopter observed a merchant ship Saturday in the vicinity of Shah Allam but on closer investigation found that the ship was not laying mines.

"The notice has since been rescinded and as of now there is no specific concern about mines in the Gulf," said the source, who refused to be identified.

Shipping sources said traffic in the waterway was very light with Kuwaiti ports and oil terminals closed since Aug. 2 and most owners wary of sending vessels into the Gulf.

"This will make checking ships easier," one executive said.

The U.S. has nine warships inside the Gulf while Britain has three. Nine American warships, including an aircraft carrier, are outside the waterway and another six plus the Dwight D. Eisenhower

aircraft carrier at the entrance to the Red Sea.

Washington has declined to call its action a blockade and Britain's royal navy was equally reticent. A spokesman in London confirmed the frigate questioned the Glory but described it as routine rather than an interception.

Iran and Iraq both sowed mines in the Gulf during their 1980-88 war and dozens of ships were damaged. The United States was the last foreign power to withdraw minesweepers from the region in 1989.

Western naval sources said foreign minesweepers would start returning to the Gulf in three weeks. Three from Britain were expected to be among the first to get there.

Shipping sources said Western navies with advanced radar could easily intercept potential sanctions-busters. "Even Iran with primitive boats managed to question and turn away ships carrying goods for Iraq during the war," one executive said.

Iran largely denied Iraq use of the Gulf by checking ships at the Strait of Hormuz for cargo destined for Iraq or for Kuwait, then used as a transit port.

There has been no firm word as yet about the nature of the command that will direct the various units of the multinational force in which the Americans are the giant contributors.

The story of an Israeli looking at Palestinians closely

By Arieh O'Sullivan
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — An Israeli soldier stares through binoculars to penetrate the privacy of a Palestinian home. He sees laundry billowing in the breeze, falls secretly in love with a young Palestinian woman and witnesses a tragic explosion.

In the scenes from the new movie "Lookout," the soldier is largely a passive observer who reacts violently in the end.

Director Dina Zvi Riklis says her intent was to shake Israelis out of their complacency about the 31-month-old Palestinian uprising.

The film, the latest in a series of Israeli movies on the Palestinian conflict, won the \$5,000 Golden Dove Award as the best short film at the Jerusalem film festival in July.

It starts with an anonymous soldier in a lookout post above a neighbourhood in the occupied Gaza Strip. He twists a radio's dial to the station whose Hebrew news and chatter, along with U.S. and Israeli rock music, will be almost the only sound for the film's 28 minutes.

Ms. Riklis' camera shows the life of a Palestinian family through the eyes of the brown-haired reservist in his late 20s.

A Palestinian father builds a pigeon coop atop his roof, and his son sets free the birds. On the street, two soldiers confiscate a soccer ball from Palestinian boys.

As the soldier looks down on the dusty streets in Gaza, the radio disc jockey brightly announces, "a day on the Mediterranean. We love the weather here."

The soldier's glance is drawn across the street to an old Arab house built of stones with arched windows. A 7-year-old boy lives there with his teen-age sister, innocent and stunningly beautiful.

The girl knows she is being watched and seductively lingers near her window. In his only descent from the lookout post, the soldier walks by the house and encounters the girl. They stare into each other's eyes but do not speak.

When the girl marries a Palestinian activist, she changes. Her dark, lush hair is covered by a scarf in Muslim fashion. The husband closes the bedroom window shutters, blocking the soldier's view.

In the living room, the family watches a television news report showing troops savagely beating Arabs. A youth unfurls a Palestinian flag.

The soldier's only line in the

movie comes as troops raid the house and arrest the woman's father.

"I didn't see anything," the soldier says into his army radio to the squad of soldiers arresting the father.

In the gripping climax, the woman's husband sends her brother to deliver a package to the father as he returns from a military lookout.

An army patrol appears, and the boy hurriedly tosses aside the package. It explodes. The boy dies before his father's eyes.

Now the lookout's passivity ends. He stares at the boy's limp body, raises his rifle and shoots dead the young husband.

In an eerie epilogue, the Palestinian woman paces her porch months later singing to her newborn child, still watched by a lookout. But the reservist is gone. A different, wide-eyed soldier gazes on.

For Israelis, Ms. Riklis' film presents the unfamiliar world of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip juxtaposed with the familiar character of an Israeli radio show.

"Radio is almost the second voice of the nation. It is still not a medium of entertainment here, but taken very seriously," said popular disc jockey Dori Ben-Zeev, whose show was on the soundtrack.

Ms. Riklis explains her intent this way: "What the soldier sees is a story. What he hears on the radio is reality. I wanted to take a difficult situation and bit the audience with our indifference."

"The events (in the territories) are the same, only we get used to hearing them and they don't phase us anymore," she said.

She plans to have the newscasts translated to save the contrast for showings abroad. "Lookout" is already scheduled for the Edinburgh Film Festival later this year, and Ms. Riklis hopes to have it shown at other festivals.

She funded the film with \$10,000 of her own money and \$20,000 from the Tel Aviv fund, which finances artistic products. Ms. Riklis said she does not plan to release the movie commercially because of its 30-minute length.

The film is more a mix of documentary with drama than two other recent Israeli films that focus on relations with Palestinians.

"Green Fields," winner of the feature-film award at the 1989 Jerusalem festival, follows an Israeli family on a violent journey in the West Bank. "One of ours," Israel's entry in this year's U.S. academy awards, is about the slaying of a Palestinian prisoner.

'Jordanians well and safe'

(Continued from page 1)

The source, who works on an oil rig, 140 kilometres from Kuwait, towards the 'Iraqi' border added: "The ones willing to condemn the Iraqi action were the rich who stand to lose, or have their money reined in. We, the common people, we wish well for all Arabs."

Asked whether there was any resistance from the Kuwaiti side, Abu Zubair said that "there was little resistance at the beginning, then things calmed down." Other sources contacted by the Jordan Times said that there was no resistance at all. However, one Jordanian who had returned Tuesday, said that there was resistance by youth who had got hold of arms and were trying to fight. "They are

in populated areas and the Iraqis do not want to jeopardise civilians' lives, so they are left alone."

According to other sources, a few are rarely injured, at night. The border points at Um Al 'Aish, Rawdaten and Al Jahra (on the Kuwait-Iraqi border) are open. They added that there were no attempts to stop people from crossing.

"I faced no problems crossing from Kuwait into Iraq," said one source. "The passports were barely checked."

Bilal said a group of 30 Kuwaiti policemen who sought refuge at the Jordanian diplomatic mission in Kuwait following the Iraqi military takeover of Kuwait had "left on their own will."

U.S. continues Gulf build-up

(Continued from page 1)

There was no immediate confirmation of the report in Damascus where officials have been reluctant to discuss the subject of Syrian participation in the Saudi-based force.

Twelve of 20 Arab League members voted at the Cairo-hosted emergency Arab summit on Aug. 10 to respond to the Saudi Arabian call to press for an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait and bolster the kingdom's own defences in face of the Iraqi buildup on the Kuwaiti borders.

Egypt resumed its airlift of elite combat troops to Saudi Arabia Wednesday. The soldiers bore few offensive arms but carried gas masks.

The Egyptian government's press office said Tuesday the military had scheduled a pre-departure for an unspecified number of troops.

About 3,000 Egyptian soldiers flew to Saudi Arabia over the weekend, military sources in Cairo said.

Wednesday's departures are the first of up to 2,000 reinforcements the sources said. They said the numbers could increase.

Moroccan troops also have been arriving in Saudi Arabia, the diplomatic sources in Riyadh said.

Pakistan is likely to send about 5,000 combat troops to Saudi Arabia, according to an army source.

"I would say that about 5,000 soldiers is about right," the army source said.

Pakistan defence sources say the government does not want to commit large numbers of troops while tension is high on the border with India over an uprising in disputed Kashmir.

It is also reluctant to get too heavily involved in the Gulf crisis when about 100,000 Pakistanis live and work in Kuwait and Iraq. But Islamabad would not be

able to ignore a direct request from Saudi Arabia when it might need financial backing in return if the Kashmir dispute with India ends in war, one analyst said.

The news of Cheney's second visit to the region this month came as U.S. defence officials said the navy will send a fourth aircraft carrier next week to join a massive U.S. force of troops, aircraft and warships.

Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams said Cheney would visit American troops and was expected to meet with Saudi officials and possibly visit other countries in the region before returning home Tuesday of next week.

Williams also told reporters in a briefing that the Pentagon was drawing up plans for U.S. warships in the northern Arabian Sea, Gulf and Red Sea to halt any shipments of oil or other cargo leaving or entering Iraq.

"I am told that we are tracking ships in the region," he said, adding that the plan would probably include an international effort headed by the United States.

But Williams did not say how warships from Britain, France, Canada, the Soviet Union and other countries might take part in such an effort, which the White House has refused to call a "blockade."

Defence officials who asked not to be identified said the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and its 80 warplanes would leave Norfolk, Virginia, next week on a "routine" deployment to replace the carrier Eisenhower, now in the Red Sea.

Cheney warned Iraq Tuesday that U.S. forces had a "wide range" of options to respond to any chemical arms attack by Iraq in the Gulf.

He said Bush would make the final decision on retaliation.

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U.S. holds on to beat Argentina at world basketball games

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — It seemed the Argentine fans had come to watch the wrong sport.

A packed house at 6,500-seat Luna Park sang and danced and cheered, especially when Argentina cut into a huge United States lead Monday night.

But this was a quarterfinal game of the World Basketball Championships, not a World Cup soccer final, and the United States held on to win 104-100.

"I always thought soccer was the number one sport down here," said Kenny Anderson, who led the United States with 32 points. "It was kind of crazy. I was just glad to get out there with a win."

Calling the atmosphere kind of crazy was like saying Argentina kind of came back.

The United States led 88-66 with 8:17 to play and it seemed like the quarterfinals were off to a good start for the U.S. team, which went 3-0 in qualifying-round play.

Argentina hit six 3-pointers down the stretch and American shooting, which was 22-for-31 in

the first half, cooled down. All of a sudden, there was a close game at Luna Park.

"The Argentine team was fantastic in the last six minutes," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "They were excellent throughout, but especially in the last six minutes. When a team is that hot, the only way to play defense is to keep the ball out of their hands."

The United States plays Australia, which lost to Puerto Rico 89-79, Tuesday. The last quarterfinal-round game for the United States will be Puerto Rico Wednesday.

The top two teams from each of the two four-team quarterfinal groups will advance to Friday's semifinals. The other group includes the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, which won Monday, Greece and Brazil.

In other games Monday, the Soviet Union beat Greece 75-57, Yugoslavia pounded Brazil 105-86 and Puerto Rico downed Australia 89-79.

George Torres scored 26 points for Puerto Rico, which was despite blowing an 18-point first-

half lead.

A 3-point by Torres with 11:50 left in the first half gave Puerto Rico a 26-8 lead. But Australia, which got 25 points from Andrew Gaze, cut the deficit to 42-38 at the half and led twice early in the second half.

Torres broke a 56-56 tie and gave Puerto Rico the lead for good with a 3-pointer with 11:19 to play. That started a 14-2 run that put Puerto Rico in charge with seven minutes to go.

Yugoslavia 105, Brazil 86

Drazen Petrovic, one of four National Basketball Association players on the roster, scored 27 points as Yugoslavia manhandled Brazil, which had little to support Oscar Schmidt's 40-point performance.

Yugoslavia, which won the gold medal in the recent Goodwill Games, led 52-41 at the half, then went on a 25-12 run in the first eight minutes of the second half. Petrovic, a guard for the Portland Trail Blazers, had four

3-pointers during that surge. Toni Kukoc of the Chicago Bulls had 20 points and eight assists, Zarko Paspalj of the San Antonio Spurs added 19 points and eight rebounds, and Vlade Divac of the Los Angeles Lakers had 14 points and eight rebounds.

Soviet Union 75, Greece 57

Alexander Volkov had a layup and a 3-pointer during a 15-0 run midway through the second half that lifted the Soviet Union past Greece.

Two free throws by Pano Giannakis midway through the second half brought Greece to within 51-49. Over the next six minutes, the Soviets charged to a 66-49 advantage.

Volkov, who plays for the Atlanta Hawks and is one of four Soviets who played for the team that won the 1988 Olympic gold medal, finished with 23 points, 15 rebounds and six assists.

Pano Giannakis led Greece with 22 points, although he missed 17 of 22 shots, including all seven from 3-point range.

Pierce, Frazier win at Los Angeles tennis games

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (AP) — Ninth-seed Amy Frazier needed nearly two hours to defeat Argentina's Mercedes Paz 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round of the Virginia Slims of Los Angeles tournament.

Frazier, of Rochester Hills, Michigan, dropped the last five games of the second set to Paz but regrouped in the final set to win.

The top eight seeds received first-round byes in the \$350,000 tournament.

Wild card entry Mary Pierce, a Floridian who now resides in France, rolled to a 6-0, 6-2 win over Andrea Temesvari of Hungary.

The match dragged on for 73 minutes as Pierce drew a point penalty for delaying the match.

The 15-year-old Pierce, who won the first seven games of the match, initially drew a warning from chair umpire Jan Ryan for taking too much time towel-drying between points.

The pace of the match continued to crawl in the final game, with the players reaching deuce eight times. Pierce had wasted four match points when she got into a lengthy argument with Ryan after the umpire docked her a point for delaying the match.

The teen-ager needed two more match points to put Temesvari away, and the crowd booed as she left the court.

"My grip was soaking wet and the sweat was leaving marks on my glasses," Pierce said afterwards. "I don't understand why the crowd turned against me. The

referee said I was supposed to play at the pace of the server, and I have 20 seconds to get in position. I know the rule.

"There was nothing I could do about it. I had to towel off." No. 15 seed Gigi Fernandez of Aspen, Colorado, defeated Nathalie Herremann of France 7-5, 6-1.

Two seeded players were upset in the first round. Florencia Labat of Argentina downed 16th-seeded Claudia Porwik of West Germany 2-6, 6-2, 7-5, and Sweden's Catarina Lindqvist eliminated Lori McNeil of Houston 6-1, 6-2.

McNeil was given an unnumbered seeding after no. 10 seed Barbara Paulus withdrew from the tourney.

Making a comeback is unexpected Stephanie Rebe of Highland, California, who won her first round match against Betsy Nagelsen of Kapala Bay, Hawaii, 6-4, 6-3.

It was Rebe's second match since returning to tennis after being injured in a 1988 auto accident. She lost to Steffi Graf last week at the Great American Tennis Classic in San Diego.

In other first-round matches, Bettina Fulco of Argentina defeated France's Karine Quentrec 6-2, 5-7, 6-1, and Isabelle Demongot of France eliminated Tamaka Takagi of Japan 6-4, 6-3.

Dinky Van Rensburg of Great Neck, New York, downed Ann Grossman of Grove City, Ohio, and Tami Whittinger of Neneh, Wisconsin, beat Elina Reinach of South Africa 6-0, 6-4.

Cash moves to 2nd round at Volvo International

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — They are two 25-year-old players trying to regain their old form, and their paths crossed in the first round of the Volvo International.

Australian Pat Cash defeated 14th-seeded Mats Wilander, 1-6, 7-5, 6-3, Monday night after getting into the tournament as an alternate when four other players withdrew. He now advances to the second round.

"It's very hard and very, very frustrating coming back," said Cash, who sustained an injury to his Achilles tendon in 1989 that knocked him off the circuit for 10 months.

"You just can't walk on the courts and start beating these guys," the 1987 Wimbledon winner said.

Cash's serve-and-volley game got off to a sputtering start, and it looked like Wilander would dispatch his opponent in two quick sets. Wilander broke Cash's serve twice to win the first set 6-1 as Cash hit one volley after another into the net or wide.

But Cash's performance steadily improved in the second set, and he broke Wilander's serve to avoid a tiebreaker and win 7-5.

Wilander lost his next serve in the third set and Cash went on to a 6-3 victory to take the match. Cash said the time off actually gave him the opportunity to refine his skills.

"I just have to get used to playing under pressure now," he said, adding, "I'm really looking forward to next year."

Wilander took time off from tennis this year to be with his ailing father, who died in June. He said he was not discouraged by losing the match.

"You've got to give yourself time. Hopefully, some day I'll come back and win a couple matches," said the Swede, who has admitted losing his intensity after winning the French and U.S. Opens in 1988.

Like Cash, Wilander said he is still far from his old form. He said one problem may be that he is dwelling too much on his layoff.

Butragueno could be benched

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Real Madrid's Emilio "the culture" Butragueno, who gained fame during Spain's 1986 World Cup campaign, may be relegated from starting status when the Spanish season opens on Sept. 2.

After sitting out most of Real Madrid's first two exhibition matches, Butragueno's first complete game ended badly Sunday when he shot wide in a penalty-kick shootout and handed Lazio of Rome a victory at a tournament in southern Spain.

Mexican Hugo Sanchez volleyed a ball for a goal in the final

seconds of overtime to give Madrid a 1-1 tie after West German Karl Heinz Riedle broke open a scoreless deadlock in the 99th minute of play.

Butragueno rocketed to national hero status during the World Cup in Mexico when he scored a record-tying four World Cup goals in Spain's 5-1 second-round victory over Denmark. Spain was eliminated by Belgium in the quarterfinals of penalty kicks.

But a goalless performance in this past summer's World Cup in Italy raised doubts about the 27-year-old's touch.

Novacek retires from U.S. Hardcourt Championships

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Czechoslovakia's Karel Novacek was the first seeded player to be eliminated in a first-round match of the U.S. Men's Hardcourt Championships.

Novacek, the 10th seed, retired after falling behind France's Thierry Champion 6-2, 3-1.

"I'm not feeling well. My sto-

mach is very upset," Novacek said. "I think it was what I ate for breakfast at the hotel yesterday. I felt ill all day and I was sick all night."

Novacek opened the second set by holding service. But Champion won the next three games, prompting Novacek to call it a day.

Burrell to chase record at Zurich Grand Prix

ZURICH (R) — Leroy Burrell chases the world 100 metres record while Keoya's finest hunt each other at Wednesday's Zurich Grand Prix, the world's richest athletics meeting.

Organisers have promised a kilogramme of gold to any athlete heading a world record, a feat Burrell considers well within his grasp.

"I've heard of the fast track here and I'm going to go for the world record," Burrell told reporters Monday.

Burrell and his fellow American Michael Johnson, who runs over 200 metres here, have turned on some spectacular performance in Europe this year.

So too have the extraordinary Kenyans, who are out in force for the high point of the European season.

The Zurich meeting, with its heady mix of hot weather, a fast track, plus handsome appearance and prize money, has traditionally crammed an Olympic class programme into a single evening.

Wednesday will be no exception.

The feature race was to have been between Burrell and his Santa Monica Track Club team mate Carl Lewis, the Olympic 100 metres champion and world record holder.

Lewis has since pulled a hamstring and although he is expected to be present for the meeting he is unlikely to compete.

In his absence Burrell takes on Olympic silver medalist Linford Christie, whose dream of becoming the world number one this year is already over.

Burrell has beaten the Commonwealth champion three times this season and even if the Briton were to win Wednesday statisticians are unlikely to rate him ahead of the American.

Keoyans have packed the middle-distance events with no fewer than five entered for the 800 and steeplechase specialists Julius Kariuki and William Mutwol taking part in the 5,000.

William Tanni, who devastated a field including five Olympic finalists in Brussels last Friday, runs the 800, while Yobes Ondieki, another Brussels winner, again races Olympic champion John Ngugi in the 5,000.

The 110 metres hurdles assembles the Olympic, world and Commonwealth champions in Roger Kingdom, Greg Foster and Colin Jackson as well as Renaldo Nehemiah, the first man to break 13 seconds.

American Botch Reynolds, who shattered the world record here two years ago, runs the 400 metres while Evelyn Ashford returns to the track where she broke the women's world 100 metres record six years ago.

In the field, the organisers have arranged a special javelin competition to allow Britain's world record holder Steve Backley a final outing before the European Championships, while American world record holder Randy Barnes competes in the shot put.

Meanwhile Roger Kingdom re-

tains to Zurich Wednesday where he set the world 110-metre hurdle record last year. However he has other things on his mind now.

"My mind can't possibly be 100 per cent on track when my wife is going to have a baby," Kingdom said.

In fact the baby is expected this week, as Kingdom competes in the Weltklasse meet where he ran his world record of 12.92 last year.

"I don't feel any pressure going back to Zurich," Kingdom said. "Because when you have two gold medals, been the best track and field athlete, and you have a world record, the only thing the others can take away is the world record."

This year, Kingdom is finding it difficult to maintain the competitive edge that won him all those laurels. After winning the Olympic hurdles in 1984 and 1988, setting a world record and being named Track and Field News' Athlete of the Year, Kingdom has to explain why his results haven't been as brilliant as they were in 1989.

"People haven't paid attention that I'm coming back from an injury," Kingdom said before competing at a Monaco meet where he came in fifth, another one of a series of setbacks recently.

After a hamstring injury, Kingdom was beaten a number of times this season.

This year he's decided to do the best he can, and to focus on the World Championships next year in Tokyo.

"I'm happy to see what I've done, but it's hard to always stay concentrated," Kingdom said. "You have to travel a lot, and at the same time try to live a normal life," he said.

But since the beginning of his international career, and its obligatory travel, Kingdom has learned to appreciate the different countries he goes to.

"I love Italy, for its pasta and all the food. Monaco, because I like gambling, but I've calmed down on that. Zurich is nice because it's the town where I set the world record, and Berlin is full of tradition in the sport," he says.

"London is the only town that I don't like too much. But basically because of the weather," he says. Almost 29 years ago, Kingdom insists that age isn't a handicap in the sport. "In track, age is not a problem. If it was, why isn't (Colin) Jackson winning everything, since he is the youngest?" asked Kingdom.

Jackson, 23, has this season's fastest time at 13.08 but still hasn't beaten Kingdom in a major championship.

By the time Kingdom is 30 he hopes to run in both the World Championships in Tokyo and the 1992 Olympics Games in Barcelona.

"I'm getting prepared for those events, to prove I can still be on the top," he said.

Agassi, Chang to face Austria in Davis Cup

NEW YORK (R) — Andre Agassi will return to the U.S. Davis Cup team to partner Michael Chang in the singles matches against Austria in next month's semifinals, the U.S. Tennis Association has announced.

Rick Leach and Jim Pugh, the world's top-ranked pairing, will play the doubles in the clash in Vienna from Sept. 21 to 23.

Agassi, 20, the world's fourth-ranked player, has apparently patched up his feud with Davis Cup Captain Tom Gorman and

will be making his 1990 Davis Cup debut. He boasts a record of 7-2 in Davis Cup singles matches.

Chang, who last year became the youngest winner of the French Open at 17, has been making steady progress this year since returning to action after a serious hip injury. Now ranked 10th in the world, he has played once before in the Davis Cup, winning both matches.

Leach and Pugh have won three doubles titles this year, including Wimbledon.

U.K.'s Cram wins 1,500 m after a year's absence

GROSSETO, Italy (R) — Britain's Steve Cram ended a year's absence from top-flight competition through injury with a comfortable 1,500 metres victory in an international athletics meeting in Grosseto.

Cram, who has been dogged by calf and Achilles tendon injuries, finished in a relatively slow three minutes 35.98 seconds but his performance justified the faith of the British selectors who picked him for the European Championships in split.

The 29-year-old Cram, European champion in 1982 and 1986,

took the lead at the bell and went on to win by 25 metres from Italy's Davide Tirelli.

The easy victory was a welcome boost to his self-confidence ahead of the European Championships later this month.

Said Cram: "I came here to run 3:37 or 3:38 so I have to be satisfied."

Cram, looking comfortable and relatively untroubled by the heat and wind, tucked into second place for the first three laps but broke away just after the bell to stride out alone for the final 400 metres.

Irish horse racing gets much needed shot in arm

By Paul Majendie
Reuter

DUBLIN — Irish horse racing, a national treasure with empty coffers, has won the state funding it desperately needed to boost prize money, improve rundown racecourses and brighten its image.

For owners, trainers, breeders and officials all agree — the industry was in a state of crisis and needed a hefty injection of funds to stay internationally competitive.

Irish jumping heroes like Dawn Run and Arkle, flat-racing stars like Nijinsky, Sir Ivor and the Minstrel once dominated European racing in the glory days.

"Now overseas owners plunder all the big prizes, race sponsorship has fallen and the number of racecourses in training has slumped by almost 20 per cent in a decade. Phoenix Park, one of Dublin's premier courses, is due to close this year."

The Irish are passionate about horse racing. It ranks alongside Guinness stout beer as a national asset and when the industry made its cry for help, Prime Minister Charles Haughey came galloping to the rescue.

Haughey, who gave the breeding industry a massive boost 20 years ago when he exempted stallion fees from tax, has pledged nine million pounds (\$13.5 million) over the next three years to the show-window industry that employs 25,000 people.

The racing lobby won a friendly hearing. Haughey, a keen racing fan, owner and breeder himself, once more emerged as "the white knight" who raced to help.

Now the racing board has announced how it will spend the first tranche of money in year one.

Improvement grants will give racecourses a much needed boost, prize money is to rise by at least 25 per cent at the lower end of the scale and a marketing

campaign launched to improve the image of an industry labelled "fiddlers on the roof," by one Irish parliamentarian.

A new racing centre for apprentices is to be built — Ireland has produced a string of world-class jockeys from Pat Eddery to Michael Kinane — and the Equine Research Centre will also get a funds boost for virology research.

Critics argue that Ireland already has too much racing at too many courses. It has 28 racecourses for a population of 3.5 million while Britain has 59 courses for a population of 60 million.

But the attendance figures show that the enthusiasm is there. If the right formula can be found — attendances topped 1.1 million last year and betting turnover was up two per cent.

Then come the two gloomy statistics — prize money fell by 0.4 per cent and sponsorship, so crucial for the good health of a racecourse, was down by almost eight per cent.

But not all is gloom and despondency. On the racing front, the Dermot Weld-trained Go And Go gave Ireland a tremendous boost in June when winning the Belmont Stakes.

The Colt, steered to an effortlessly easy triumph by big-race specialist Kinane, was the first European horse ever to win a leg of the coveted American Triple Crown.

Sadlers Wells, standing at Coolmore Stud in County Tipperary, is this year's undoubted stallion star in Europe.

His sons and daughters have now captured 10 group one races.

Old Vic won last year's Irish and French Derby Races and Salsabil landed this year's English 1,000 Guineas, Epsom Oaks and Irish Derby.

"Coolmore is hot as a pistol," boasts part owner Robert Sangster.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
AND TANNAN HIRSCH
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WHO NEEDS ACES?

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ A 10
♥ 6 3 2
♦ A K Q
♣ 6 5 4 3 2

WEST
♠ J 9 6
♥ 7 5 4
♦ 8
♣ A K J 9 8

EAST
♠ K 8 7 6 4 3
♥ 8
♦ 10 9 4 3 2
♣ 7

SOUTH
♠ Q 2
♥ A K Q J 10
♦ Q 7 6 5
♣ J 10

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠
Pass 1 NT Pass 2 ♠
Pass 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
If we told you that, on occasion, you have to throw away your top card in a suit to make a contract, you would suspect us of trying to pull an April Fool's trick on you. Nevertheless, here's a hand to prove our contention.

North-South had agreed that a new minor suit was forcing, so there was no need for South to bid more

than two diamonds at his second turn. (We might have opted for three no trump, with unhappy results should the enemy have found a club lead.) When North took a heart preference, South decided to bank his 150 honors by raising to four hearts.

West started with three high clubs, forcing declarer to ruff. Had trump divided 3-2, the play would have been over in a matter of seconds. The 4-1 split, however, posed problems, for there was no fast entry back to declarer's hand to enable the jack of diamonds to be cashed after clearing North's winners in the suit.

The bidding and play to the first three tricks pointed the way to a solution of this knotty problem. Although a passed hand, West had shown up with A K J fifth in clubs. With the king of spades as well, West might have opened the bidding. So declarer drew four rounds of trumps. On the last, South discarded the table's ace of spades!

After cashing dummy's high diamonds, declarer led a spade. No matter how East defended, the queen of spades was going to provide an entry to declarer's hand to score the jack of diamonds as the 10th trick!

HOROSCOPE

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A beautiful day and evening for you to become reenergized in the spirit of achieving the right pathway toward success, right action and happiness. Keep expecting the best possible result.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your own personal progress can be greatly expedited today if you approach your activities from a new slant and then avoid making material commitments.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You need to become imbued anew with your aspirations and plan to make them work with more secrecy if you are to succeed in obtaining them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be on the lookout for new friends and acquaintances now for it is through them you can make your swift progress and don't fuss over a private concern.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Consider well just how you want to be regarded by bigwigs and the general public and make plans to gain this; avoid an egotistical friend.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Contact those persons available whom you have not known and get their views how you can best march forward to greater successes and avoid a bumpy official.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A day to get into whatever

advanced formulas are available for you to operate more properly with those who can aid your practical progress.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Be on the quiver for some excellent suggestions from impulsive and mentally aware individuals for more advancement in world of outside activity.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A day to look into whatever printed material is at your fingertips to uncover better ways to handle your routine activities.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A jovial person will be willing to go along with a plan you have for enjoying yourself and your recreation more thoroughly so listen to him/her.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Rely more upon your own judgment what course is best to pursue at your home so that everyone there is more contented and happy.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to get out communications for those at a distance and in which your best judgment needs to be utilized to your advantage.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Money and business matters should occupy your attention today so look for ways to add to your holdings and put them in effect at once.

THE BETTER HALF.

Report estimates Iraqi reserves rising by \$4b from Kuwaiti assets

NEW YORK (R) — Iraq has transferred between \$3 billion and \$4 billion in gold, foreign currencies and goods seized from financial and commercial institutions in Kuwait, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

Quoting Arab bankers in London and the Gulf region, the newspaper said the seizures had considerably increased Iraq's financial reserves.

While Iraq has never revealed the size of its reserves of gold and negotiable currencies, British and Arab bankers say they stood at an estimated \$6.5 billion before Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2.

Arab officials said the Iraqi takeover has also resulted in the seizure of civilian and military aircraft, fleets of new cars and large amounts of machinery, food

and other goods.

"We are talking about gold, cash, cars, airplanes, tankers and a lot of military hardware which fell intact into the hands of the Iraqis on the first days of the invasion," the newspaper quoted a bank chairman, who asked not to be identified, as saying.

Bankers said they estimated the Kuwaiti central bank, looted by Iraqi troops on the first day of the invasion, had held 2.5 million ounces worth \$1 billion.

The bank also had an estimated year's supply of Kuwaiti dinars, or the equivalent of \$350 million, as well as several hundred million dollars in other currencies, including U.S. dollars, Swiss and French francs and pounds sterling.

The newspaper did not give a precise estimate of the worth of the other goods seized.

Experts regret missing chance to formulate U.S. energy policy

WASHINGTON (R) — Energy experts say the U.S. government missed its chance to formulate a national energy policy during President Ronald Reagan's administration and it is now too late to do much to cope with the Gulf crisis.

"Basically this has caught Washington asleep at the switch," said Senate Energy Committee aide Benjamin Cooper.

A period of relatively stable oil prices through the 1980s saw environmental and economic concerns outstrip energy security in a trend continued under President George Bush.

"If you look back there was a very fine energy security report done in 1987 and it really was devoted to this notion that our energy security is deteriorating as a result of our increasing dependence on foreign oil," said Linda Stuntz, deputy undersecretary at the Energy Department.

"We didn't do a very good job of getting it implemented. The balance between environmental protection, economics and energy security has gotten skewed," she noted.

Stuntz is heading the department's development of a new energy plan that is not due to be implemented until 1991. She said the Energy Department is putting together a list of options to reduce consumption and increase domestic supplies.

Despite two oil price shocks in the 1970s, once the price of oil collapsed in 1986 it was difficult to get excited about energy security, Stuntz said.

The consequences were felt immediately Aug. 2 with the Iraqi take-over that left the United States with a national energy policy that let the free market reign and prices rise dramatically.

Cooper said the main accomplishment of the Reagan administration was to fill the strategic petroleum reserve, now equivalent to 75 days of imports or 590 million barrels, stored along the Mexican Gulf coast.

The law says the president can take oil out of the reserve in the event of a severe supply disruption. It would take 16 days to get the first reserve oil on the market and there are no signs it will be used soon.

The American Gas Association said natural gas could replace 160,000 barrels of oil per day immediately, 480,000 barrels daily within one year and 1.3 million barrels within five years.

The gas lobby wants the Energy Department to include options in its forthcoming national energy strategy to increase domestic natural gas production and systems to replace oil with gas in homes, vehicles and power plants.

The American Petroleum Institute wants the departments to allow its members to drill.

Saudi central bank provides funds to ease liquidity bind

DUBAI (R) — The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) stepped in Tuesday to help its banking system which has been besieged by calls for cash from worried depositors since Iraq moved into Kuwait.

Dealers in the kingdom said the central bank had made it easier for banks to get funds by allowing them to use a greater percentage of government bond holdings as security to borrow.

"This gives us more room to breathe," said one Saudi bank treasury manager.

The bank has effectively put a cap on short-term Saudi rial interbank interest rates, which had been rising inexorably as banks fought for funds.

SAMA's temporary help has been through what central bankers call a repurchase facility whereby they are willing to take back their own state bonds as collateral for lending back into the system with the banks repurchasing the bonds later.

Dealers said the bank had temporarily raised the amount banks could borrow through SAMA's repurchase facility to 50 per cent of their holdings of state development bonds.

Previous limits on such borrowing were 10 per cent for non-market makers in the bonds, and 25 per cent for market makers.

SAMA will charge 10 per cent for loans through the facility on any borrowing above these limits and up to the new 50 per cent limit.

Dealers said the move was already affecting short-term rates which had been creeping over 10 per cent in the market.

"This is a positive sign and is effectively a cap on rates," said another Saudi bank dealer.

M.E. tension brings up political risk insurance

HARTFORD, Connecticut (R) — Iraq's take-over of Kuwait and resulting losses suffered by American businesses in the area has opened many executives' eyes to the need for political risk insurance, industry officials say.

U.S. companies doing business in the Middle East have become more keenly aware of the potential threat to their business contracts, property and employees' lives, said Daniel Wagner, a political risk broker in the international division of Johnson and Higgins Inc., an insurance brokerage based in New York.

"Doing business in the Middle

East is tricky. It involves problems that call for political risk insurance," Wagner said.

Iraq is defaulting on its foreign debt, some \$100 billion in Kuwait assets have been frozen by more than 20 countries and American business properties in Kuwait are under threat of being expropriated by the Iraqis.

Two weeks ago, few could have predicted this would happen, Wagner said. And U.S. companies operating in Kuwait without political risk insurance are facing major losses, he noted.

"People are starting to see that this could happen in other parts of the Middle East, and they want protection," he said.

Francis Boylan, a senior vice president at the New York-based insurance brokerage Alexander and Alexander Services Inc., said there has been a rise in requests for political risk insurance from businesses operating in Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.

While no one wishes for political instability or volatility in a nation's leadership, such situations do highlight the value of political risk insurance, Boylan said.

But executives often reconsider their companies' level of exposure and need for insurance only after a crisis has occurred.

"The best time to buy this coverage, though, is when things are calm because the price is lower," Boylan said.

Buying political risk coverage now for operations in the Gulf is like trying to buy fire insurance on a burning building — you can get it, but it will be costly, said Jack Willyard, a vice president at Sedgwick James Ltd., a London-based brokerage.

M.E. buying pushes up gold price

LONDON (R) — Middle East buying pushed gold sharply higher in brisk early European trading Tuesday and oil and share prices also firmed due to concern about the military buildup in the Gulf, dealers said.

"I've seen only buying (of gold) this morning," one bullion dealer in Zurich said. "There's been a lot of buying from Middle East interests hedging against a fall in their currencies."

Dealers said the unpredictable course of the crisis following Iraq's take-over of Kuwait 12 days ago made it impossible to tell how far gold, a traditional safe haven in times of trouble, would climb.

The metal opened in London at \$407.45 an ounce after closing Monday at \$404.25. In early European trading it touched a peak of around \$412.50 before easing to around \$410 by 0900 GMT.

The dollar was stuck in a narrow trading range on a market, devoid of fresh news to budge it, dealers said.

Oil prices continued their recent climb, propelled by uncertainty over what would happen next to the Gulf, where United States ground forces were fanning out into front-line defenses.

Brent blend crude from Britain's North Sea fields, the most widely traded oil on international markets, was traded in London at \$25.60 a barrel for October delivery, up 60 cents on Monday's close in London.

Japan to aid Gulf states

TOKYO (R) — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the United States Tuesday that Japan would offer economic assistance to Gulf nations affected by an embargo on trade in the region, government officials said.

U.S. President George Bush called Kaifu Tuesday morning to urge Japan to make "substantial contributions" to countries affected by the Midwest Gulf crisis, a government official told reporters in a news conference.

"I hope Japan will cooperate as much as possible by offering economic assistance to countries in the region," he quoted Bush as saying.

The government's top spokesman, Misoji Sakamoto, said earlier that Kaifu had told Bush "the government has just entered consultations regarding what type of assistance Japan will offer."

In a cabinet meeting Tuesday, Kaifu said he would definitely visit the Middle East after the government had finalized an aid package.

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Gulf crisis undermines Bahrain's role

DUBAI (R) — The Iraqi take-over of Kuwait has seriously undermined confidence in Bahrain's offshore banking market just when its fortunes were improving, senior bankers in the region say.

Panic withdrawals from the offshore market last week, before U.S. military forces threw a defense umbrella over Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, squeezed regional liquidity.

Bankers are divided on the wisdom of the Bahrain Monetary Authority's (BMA) advice to banks not to repay time deposits ahead of maturity in order to preserve liquidity.

"To suddenly say that deposits cannot be broken before maturity has created a lot of... awkward situations for us here," said a manager of one bank in the United Arab Emirates which takes in funds and places them in the Bahrain market.

But a senior Bahrain banker said: "Banks do not have a legal obligation to repay ahead of maturity. No open and free banking system anywhere can remain unaffected by the threat of war. We have to protect the system."

He said the run of deposits was

creating a disorderly situation in the Gulf's only offshore banking market.

Bankers said the BMA was being strict in its advice to banks to stop withdrawals.

"Confidence in Bahrain is of the utmost importance. That has been broken. Even with a complete political calldown the effects of this will be felt for a long time," said a treasury manager at a large Saudi bank.

Bahrain bankers said there were substantial withdrawals of deposits after the invasion.

Panic in the tiny island of Bahrain and the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia was greater than in the southern Gulf, much further away from the threat of Iraqi bombs or chemical attack.

As in any offshore centre, offshore funds are not actually invested in Bahrain. But offshore banks last week said they could not guarantee repayment at their branches outside Bahrain should accounts there be frozen for any reason.

Since the arrival of U.S. and other forces in Saudi Arabia, nerves have calmed somewhat. But in the continuing uncertainty few people are committing further funds in Bahrain, bankers said.

The Iraqi blow to confidence in Bahrain could not have come at a worse time.

Bahrain's offshore market was largely built to meet the needs of governmental and private investors who wanted a local market to park the tens of billions of dollars that the Gulf generated during the oil boom of the 1970s.

The oil price crash and the shadow cast over regional economies during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s sharply reduced this huge pool of regional liquidity which supported the Bahrain-based banks' offshore deposit base.

The creation of global financial markets during the past decade also undermined the need for a purely regional market when funds could so easily be switched anywhere, anytime.

But the end of the Gulf war, stable oil prices, a pickup in regional economies and some innovative financial marketing encouraged by the BMA were improving the market's fortunes.

The BMA reported Bahrain offshore banking unit dollar assets at end-March, 1990, at \$73.33 billion, a record even compared with the oil boom days.

Tokyo stock market rebounds

TOKYO (AP) — Stroop performance on overseas markets overnight lifted share prices on the Tokyo stock exchange sharply Tuesday, while the U.S. dollar slipped against the Japanese yen.

The Nikkei stock average of 225 selected issues woo back 496.10 points, or 1.90 per cent, to close at 26,672.53.

The benchmark index suffered

a loss of 1,153.12 points, or 4.22 per cent, Monday after Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu

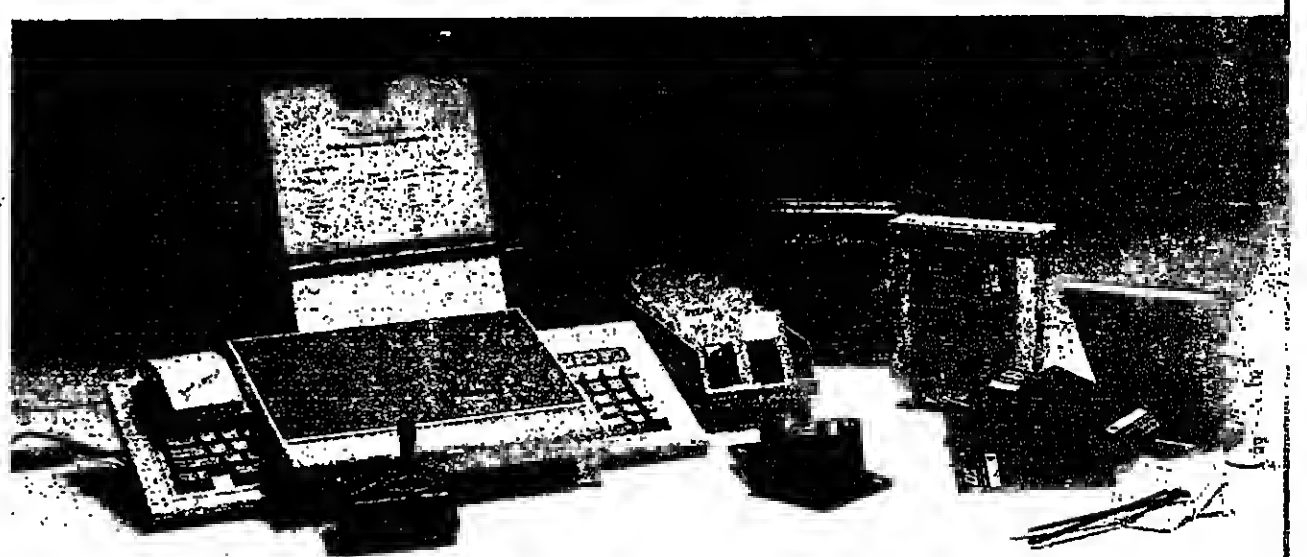
announced the cancellation of his planned trip to the Middle East because of the worsening Gulf crisis.

Traders attributed the index's rebound to bullish showings in overseas markets, especially in New York. Bargain hunting fol-

lowing Moody's plunge also encouraged investors' buying.

Despite the sharp upsurge Tuesday, traders remain cautious. "Which direction the Nikkei index will turn tomorrow is very hard to predict," said a dealer with Nikko Securities Co. "An unstable situation is likely to continue until the Gulf situation settles down."

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, August 14, 1990 Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	124.5	125.2
U.S. dollar	657.0	661.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	438.7	441.3
Pound Sterling	1243.1	1250.6	Dutch guilder	370.9	373.3
Deutschmark	417.7	420.2	Swedish crown	113.5	114.2
Swiss franc	500.5	503.5	Italian lira (for 100)	57.0	57.3
			Belgian franc (for 10)	202.9	204.1

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.8860/70	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1467/72	Canadian dollar	
	1.5763/70	Deutschmarks	
	1.7750/60	Dutch guilders	
	1.3147/57	Swiss francs	
	32.42/47	Belgian francs	
	5.2920/70	French francs	
	1158/1159	Italian lire	
	149.85/95	Japanese yen	
	5.7960/8010	Swedish crowns	
	6.1095/45	Norwegian crowns	
	6.0235/85	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	411.50/412.50	U.S. dollars	

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THE DANCER AND THE POLITICIAN
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Dured Lahham Madeline Tabar in
KAFROUN
3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45
ONCE BITTEN
5:15 only

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

Nabila Obeld — Farouq Al Fishawi — Farid Shawqi in
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571

Nabila Obeld — Farouq Al Fishawi — Farid Shawqi in
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:45 and 10:45 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Anir Diab in
AI Afartt (THE DEVILS)
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Liberian rebel leader to hold talks in Gambia

Taylor says Johnson killed

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — A spokesman for rebel leader Charles Taylor said Tuesday that rival rebel leader Prince Johnson was killed by Taylor's forces.

"Johnson was trying to get out of Monrovia when he ran into our forces," said Tom Woewiyu. The report could not be immediately confirmed.

Woewiyu said the rebel troops killed Johnson in an ambush on Bushrod Island in Monrovia, the capital.

Woewiyu, who also serves as defence minister for Taylor's National Patriotic Front, said Johnson was killed Tuesday morning and his body has been taken to NPF headquarters.

He disclosed the killing of Johnson in a telephone interview with the Associated Press.

Both Taylor and Johnson had threatened to kill each other following their split three months ago.

Johnson's men have held much of Monrovia for several weeks

after launching a surprise attack from a swamp north of the city. They caught President Samuel Doe's troops by surprise and took control of the city's port and several residential districts.

Taylor's forces were meanwhile blocked by Doe's troops 10 kilometres from the city centre in the suburb of Paynesville.

Johnson told reporters he would prevent Taylor from capturing the capital and would drive Doe from the executive mansion, where the president has been holed up for two months.

The report of Johnson's death comes as efforts to organise intervention by an African peacekeeping force appeared to be meeting further delays.

Troops from Ghana, Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Gambia have gathered in neighbouring Sierra Leone, but there was no sign of an early departure.

Woewiyu said Taylor would be flying to Banjul, Gambia, this week to talk with Gambia Presi-

dent Sir Dawda Jawara, head of the African mediation committee trying to end the nearly eight-month civil war in Liberia.

This seemed likely to delay the arrival of the peacekeeping force.

In the same Tuesday interview, Woewiyu said that West African intervention without the approval of the National Patriotic Front "would be a mistake. We will meet it with all our might and force."

Woewiyu also accused Guinea of having sent up to 200 troops into Liberia to fight with Doe. "There already are some serious foreign troops in Liberia. This frantic peacekeeping effort is being made to cover up the fact that some foreign soldiers are already there."

Guinea has accused Taylor's rebels of crossing into its territory to kill Mandingos, whom the rebels accuse of supporting Doe's government. Guinea also accused Taylor's men of attacking its embassy and taking several

embassy guards hostage.

Reporters with the rebels said one Guinea soldier taken by the rebels said he was an embassy guard.

Woewiyu said he had proof of Guinean involvement in the fighting, and that some Guinea soldiers had been captured, carrying their identity documents. He said this was separate from the incident at the embassy and did not involve any embassy staff or guards.

Meanwhile more than 100 foreigners evacuated from war-torn Liberia by U.S. military helicopters began arriving in neighbouring Sierra Leone Tuesday.

The 105-strong group left the Spanish and German embassy compounds in the Liberian capital Monrovia Sunday and travelled in a convoy of 25 cars.

From there the group, including 16 Spaniards and 15 Germans, was airlifted by helicopter to the U.S. Navy carrier Sea-
way. Riot police moved in with clubs to remove the protesters.

Canadians clash again with police near Indian stronghold

CHATEAUGUAY, Quebec (AP) — A crowd clashed with police for the second day Monday, angry over a bridge blockade that has forced residents to take long detours to Montreal.

The slogan-shouting crowd included about 100 youngsters armed with firebombs, baseball bats and iron rods tossed rocks, hall bearings and gas caps at more than 200 federal and provincial police.

After two rounds of tear gas, the crowd was driven down the town's main street. Twenty-five people were arrested.

Camille Gagnon, a provincial police spokesman, said some of those arrested carried guns, knives and metal pipes.

The sides clashed just in front of police barricades blocking the highway leading to the Mercier Bridge, the link to Montreal that has been blocked since July 11 in sympathy with a Mohawk protest 18 miles away at Oka.

The Mohawks at Oka have for several months been manning a barricade to stop the town from expanding its golf course onto Indian-claimed land. That standoff led to a July 11 gunbattle

between Indians and Quebec police. One police officer died in the gun battle, though it is not yet clear whether he was shot by Mohawks or his own men in the melee. The two sides have faced each other across barricades since then.

Residents nearer Montreal have become increasingly frustrated at the sympathy barricade Mohawks build at the main commuter bridge over the St. Lawrence River. The almost nightly counter-protests erupted into a four-hour riot Sunday night.

Yvon Poitras, leader of a group of Chateaugay residents protesting the blockade, said it's time for the provincial government to bring in the army, which has been on standby since last week at the request of Premier Robert Bourassa.

"If the army doesn't come in to Chateaugay to replace the police on the barricade, then we will have a bloodbath," said the former provincial police officer.

Police and demonstrators clashed Sunday night after Poitras' group staged a protest earlier in the day on a drawbridge west of Chateaugay on the St. Law-

ence Seaway. Riot police moved in with clubs to remove the protesters.

Later, the police used tear gas to disperse an angry crowd that had swelled to more than 5,000. The protesters threw bricks and rocks at the police. Twenty-five people were arrested.

There were no serious injuries but many of those involved said the police used excessive force.

Canadian Indian leaders told South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu Monday that their patience was running out in the search for a peaceful settlement.

The anti-apartheid campaigner and Nobel Peace Prize winner had travelled to this remote northern outpost to see firsthand the poverty and powerlessness of Canadian Indians which has prompted growing militancy and a violent white backlash.

Georges Erasmus, nation chief of the assembly of first nations, told Tutu that Indians are living in Third World conditions, desperately poor and suffering from self-inflicted violence. "Time for negotiations is short ... we can't hold the lid on the impatience of our people."

Gunmen kill 2 Colombians

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — A former judge and an ex-congressman who spent 16 years in Colombia's House of Representatives were murdered by terrorists Monday, police said.

Three assailants threw a grenade at former congressman Eusebio Munoz while he was walking on the street in the southwestern city of Cali, according to a police report.

Also Monday, gunmen murdered Carlos Campo, a former judge, in the northern coastal city of Barranquilla, police said. No motive was established, and the perpetrators escaped, police said.

The three suspects were arrested after a brief gunbattle

with police, the report said. Police gave no motives for the murder.

Cali is home to one of Colombia's two powerful cocaine cartels. The other is based in Medellin.

After retiring as a congressman of the ruling Liberal Party, Munoz became a city councillor in Buenaventura, Colombia's main port on the Pacific.

Campo had been the president of Colombia's Atlantic Superior Court. He returned to his private law practice six months ago, police said.

Meanwhile residents of a small town where a slain billionaire drug lord once built an empire

have called a general strike to protest authorities' recent treatment of their city, officials said.

Residents of the Pacho have taken over the mayor's office and a local radio station to protest the military occupation that began after Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha's death, said Fernando Munoz, Pacho's mayor.

"All business activity and the town itself is totally paralyzed," Munoz said in statements aired over the RCN radio network.

Rodriguez Gacha — the Medellin cocaine cartel's no. 2 man — reputedly owned most of his home town, about 80 kilometres north of Bogota, the capital.

2 die during Dominican protests

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Security forces have opened fire on protesters at the start of a two-day strike over government-imposed price increases. Police said two people were killed and two others wounded.

The general strike, organised by nine unions, paralysed this Caribbean nation of 7 million people. Stores, factories and government offices were closed and most public transportation was halted.

Police said about 300 people were arrested in the capital of Santo Domingo and four other cities.

In Santo Domingo, one man was killed and two were injured when police and soldiers opened fire on protesters who set up

flaming barricades and threw rocks and bottles at cars, according to police. Security force also used tear gas and batons to disperse protesters.

Police said another man was killed during a similar violent demonstration in San Cristobal, 28 kilometres west of capital.

Unions organised the nationwide work stoppage to protest against sharply higher consumer prices announced last Wednesday by the government of President Joaquin Balaguer.

The announcement prompted three days of violent protests in which five people were wounded by police, stores were looted and 200 people were arrested, according to police.

Balaguer, 83, who is to be inaugurated Thursday to a second

consecutive four-year term, lifted government subsidies, causing prices to rise, as part of an austerity programme recommended by the International Monetary Fund.

Gasoline prices rose by 83.6 per cent, flour 95.8 per cent and sugar 75 per cent, among other increases.

The government said Saturday it would announce this week price freeze on 30 items to offset the increases.

In 1984, during the last austerity programme implemented by a government disturbances lasted three days and more than 100 people died.

The conservative Balaguer narrowly defeated his longtime leftist rival, former President Juan Bosch in a disputed election May 16.

Fire knocks out power in Manhattan

NEW YORK (AP) — Some Manhattan residents will have to make do without electricity for the next few days, the result of a power outage near the financial district.

The Monday afternoon power outage — caused by a fire at an electric company substation — disrupted stock trading, forced thousands in skyscrapers to use the stairs and cut off power to several subway lines.

Police spokeswoman Sgt. Mary Wrensen said Tuesday that no looting had been reported in the affected area.

By evening, power was restored to the World Trade Centre, the World Financial Centre, a 1,740-unit residential complex at Battery Park City and dozens of other buildings.

But a large downtown shopping centre, fish market and a 1,550-unit middle-income apartment complex with numerous elderly tenants will be without electricity for several days.

The four-alarm fire at the electrical substation was reported at 11:50 a.m. (1550 GMT) and was under control at 5:25 p.m. (2125 GMT), said fire department spokeswoman Joe McGee. The cause was under investigation.

About 160 firefighters fought the blaze — 17 were treated for smoke inhalation and exhaustion. An acid odor lingered for hours.

All afternoon Monday, workers streamed out of affected buildings in search of pay phones, buses, subways and, after walking down scores of flights of stairs, something cold to drink — much

to the delight of street vendors. Unable to use Manhattan's subway trains, people walked across the Brooklyn Bridge in 85-degree weather to catch trains on the other side of the East River.

The New York Stock Exchange was not affected by the outage. But the American Stock Exchange, New York Mercantile Exchange and Commodity Exchange halted trading for the day at 1 p.m. (1700 GMT).

Hundreds of people were stuck in elevators at the World Trade Centre for up to 2½ hours until a backup generator brought the lifts down one by one, said D. Joy Faber, a spokeswoman for the port authority, which operates the 110-story twin skyscrapers.

Manila arrests top Communist rebel

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Intelligence agents Tuesday arrested a member of the outlawed Philippine Communist Party's Central Committee while he was driving a car in a Manila suburb, the military announced.

Brig.-Gen. Gerardo Flores, chief of staff of the Philippine Constabulary, identified the captured rebel as Vicente Ladlad, chief of the party's education and training committee and a regular member of its Central Committee. There was a reward of 500,000 pesos (\$21,740) for his arrest.

Flores, who is also the constabulary's intelligence chief, said Ladlad, 41, was driving near the Broadway shopping centre in Quezon City when intelligence agents intercepted his car.

Ladlad was arrested with a companion identified as Emilio Quezon Avancena. Avancena, a grandson of the Philippine Commonwealth President Manuel Quezon, was released, Flores added.

Soldiers seized a .38-caliber pistol from Ladlad, who did not resist, Flores said.

Ladlad was a former student activist at the state-run University of the Philippines at Los Banos in Laguna province. He went underground in 1972 when the late President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law.

Ladlad was first arrested in 1983 but was released in 1986 when President Corazon Aquino freed political prisoners among her first acts after ousting Marcos that year.

A handcuffed Ladlad was briefly presented to reporters but was not allowed to talk. Ladlad will be brought to a military hospital where he will be treated for chronic asthma.

In another development, army troops Saturday arrested a renegade army officer allegedly involved in the failed December coup attempt.

A report reaching the Philippine army headquarters identified the officer as 2nd Lt. George Bacani, formerly a member of the army's Honor Guard Battalion, said army spokesman Lt. Col. Benjamin Enrile.

Thousands of S. Koreans rally for unification

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Thousands of radical students chanting "unification" rallied Tuesday night for opening the heavily fortified border with Communist North Korea.

Earlier in the day, 79 radical students and dissidents were arrested at the sprawling U.S. 8th Army headquarters in central Seoul, five of them for ramming a car through the main gate.

During the rally, about 10,000 students at Seoul's Yonsei University chanted, "free travel, total border opening." Radical leaders snipped rolls of barbed wire with wire cutters to symbolise cutting the barriers between the bitterly divided Koreas.

Student leaders said thousands of citizens, dissidents and students were expected to march to the border Wednesday to attend a unification rally at the truce village of Panmunjom. "Let's go North," chanted the students.

"Let's drive out the Yankees who block unification of the fatherland," the students shouted, jabbing fists in the air. They demanded the withdrawal of some 43,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, saying their presence hinders dialogue with the North on unification.

Seventy-four students chanting similar slogans had been arrested on a street next to the U.S. military compound. The students were approaching a gate, but there was no violence, police said.

A car carrying dissidents and a

radical student shouting "drive out Yankees" barged through the main gate, but was stopped about 30 metres inside the facility.

About 50 South Korean riot police stationed outside the base raced into the compound, surrounded the blue compact car and arrested the five occupants. There were no injuries.

Meanwhile, dissident Roman Catholic priests and radical students staged protests demanding unification of North and South Korea at Freedom Bridge, a major access checkpoint on the edge of the demilitarised zone separating the two Koreas.

"Withdraw U.S. troops which heighten tension and block unification," read a large banner at the border.

Dozens of radical students, shouting "unification" tried to ram their way through guards at the bridge, 56 kilometres north of Seoul, but were halted away by riot police.

Hundreds of riot police have been stationed at the bridge to prevent violence during the failed border opening that was to have begun Monday.

The government's Unification Ministry charged North Korea with blocking the first proposed travel between citizens of the divided peninsula and urged the North to open its borders.

North Korea, in broadcasts monitored in Tokyo, made similar accusations against the South and accused Seoul of being "deceitful."

4 Cubans seek refuge in Belgian envoy's residence

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Four Cubans seeking political refuge forced their way into the Belgian ambassador's residence in Havana Monday, the Mexican government news agency Notimex reported.

The action complicates Cuban efforts to end a series of embassy invasions last month that strained Cuban relations with European nations. Eighteen Cubans remain at the Spanish embassy.

Notimex said the Belgian embassy's second secretary, Ily Leeman, confirmed that the four Cubans aged 20 to 40 entered the residence of Ambassador Lole Cornet.

He said that police surrounded the building after the Belgians

notified Cuban officials.

Belgian officials said they would not release the names of the refuge-seekers for security reasons.

The government of Cuban President Fidel Castro has insisted that refuge-seekers should surrender without condition to Cuban authorities, although it has given promises not to prosecute many of them.

Spain has insisted that all those in its embassy should be given asylum.

Earlier this summer, Cuban asylum-seekers invaded homes of Czechoslovakian and Italian diplomats. They eventually left those buildings.

Indian aides dismiss attack report

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Indian intelligence officials said Tuesday there was no truth to Pakistani allegations that Indian troops staged a major attack across the line dividing the two sides in Kashmir.

"Our sitrep (situation report) shows three minor clashes on the Kashmir front Sunday, none lasting more than a few minutes and certainly not of the type in which mortars or artillery was used," said one senior official.

"If there was such a big clash, we would know," said another.

A Pakistan Defence Ministry spokesman in Islamabad said a major clash took place in the mountainous Kel region of Kash-

mir Sunday.

He said Indian forces used heavy artillery and mortars in an attempt to take a Pakistani post.

Indian spokesmen immediately denied the allegation when it was made Monday.

The intelligence officials said Tuesday the only incidents in the Kel region Sunday were routine ones in which the two sides exchanged small arms fire.

Such exchanges occur almost daily along the line that has divided Kashmir since 1972 when the two countries fought the last of their three wars since independence from Britain in 1947.

Two of the three wars were over Kashmir and tension has

again risen sharply since secessionist agitation burst into major violence in Indian-held Kashmir in January.

Two rounds of talks — the second of which ended in Delhi on Saturday — have failed to bridge differences over the uprising.

India accuses Pakistan of arming, training and harbouring the Muslim militants, which Islamabad denies. Pakistan contends that India is using brute force to crush an indigenous independence movement.

The uprising has claimed more than 950 lives since Indian forces launched its latest and harshest crackdown in late January.

Gorbachev orders rehabilitation of more victims of Stalin's purges

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev Monday issued a sweeping decree to restore the rights of all victims of Stalinist repression, saying thousands of innocent people still bore a "stain of injustice."

The decree represented Gorbachev's strongest condemnation yet of Josef Stalin's forced collectivisation of agriculture that began in the late 1920s, when millions of peasants died of starvation, were shot or sent to labour camps as "enemies of the people."

In ordering the blanket rehabilitation, Gorbachev decreed that the "repressions conducted ... during the period of collectivisation" were "unlawful and contradictory to the main civilian and economic rights of human beings."

He similarly condemned as "unlawful the repressions against 'all citizens on political, social, ethnic, religious and other motives in the 1920s through the 1950s' and moved 'to completely reinstate the rights of these citizens.'"

The Soviet Union was taking this action now, he said, because "our society ... has chosen the path of moral revival, democracy and legality."

Gorbachev acknowledged in the decree that a special commission under Stalin already had rehabilitated thousands of innocent victims.

"But even now, thousands of cases haven't been considered,

and a stain of injustice hasn't been removed from the innocent Soviet people who suffered during forced collectivisation, who were sentenced, deported with their families to remote regions without means of existence, without a right of appeal, and without even being aware of the term of their sentence," the decree said.

The decree specifically urges that clergymen and citizens who were persecuted for religious motives should be rehabilitated. Under Stalin, thousands of priests were shot and religious worship was sharply curtailed.

The decree excludes those who were "lawfully sentenced for crimes against the motherland and against the Soviet people" during World War II and in the prewar and postwar years.

It also did not attempt to consider what kind of compensation, if any, such victims should receive. An informal political group, called Memorial, has been demanding compensation and restoration of rights for Stalin's victims.

Gorbachev ordered the government of the Soviet Union and its republics to submit, before Oct. 1, proposals to legislatures on restoring the rights of repressed citizens. He also empowered his top advisory group, the presidential council, to supervise the actions.

The decree also ordered the Soviet government to draft legislation defining the crimes that are not subject to rehabilitation.

In a landmark speech in November 1987, Gorbachev accused Stalin, who ruled the Soviet Union from 1924-53, of "enormous and unforgivable" crimes. But in that speech he also called Stalin's collectivisation "a transformation of great importance."

In Monday's decree, there was no such equivocation. "Thousands of people were subject to moral and physical torture," it said. "Many of them were annihilated. The lives of their families and next of kin were turned into one of humiliation and suffering without any hope."

The repressions "continued with the most cruel persistence for several decades," it said. "Stalin and his immediate entourage seized practically unlimited power, depriving the Soviet people of freedoms that in a democratic society are considered to be natural and inalienable," it continued.

Western historians say as many as 20 million people were shot, starved to death in famines the Kremlin did everything to encourage, or simply vanished into the Gulag during Stalin's reign of terror.

Thousands of Stalin's victims were released from Labour camps and rehabilitated after Nikita Khrushchev denounced the dictator in a secret speech to the party in 1956, three years after Stalin died.

The work stalled during Leonid Brezhnev's years in power, but picked up again after Gorbachev came to power in 1985.



Soviet robbers make fatal mistake

MOSCOW (R) — Two armed robbers made a fatal mistake Monday when they burst into a hotel room in the Soviet Black Sea resort of Sochi. Its occupants were two armed KGB officers. The KGB men refused demands for money and, after the intruders opened fire, shot one dead and wounded the other, TASS news agency said. TASS said the KGB officers were unharmed.

300,000 bikers roar out of U.S. town

STURGIS, South Dakota (R) — More than 300,000 motorcyclists have roared away from this tiny South Dakota town after a festive, al: marked by bar-room brawls and the deaths of 11 people and the town's mayor, pledged to invite the bikers back. Sturgis' 6,000 citizens returned to their homes and their stores Monday as the biker hordes took to the highways after a week-long celebration. "The streets are cleared out," said Mary Duval, spokeswoman for a state task force organised to help Sturgis deal with a record crowd of leather-clad bikers. "People are out-picking up garbage and it's a normal traffic now." The annual Black Hills Motor Classic, which officially ended Sunday, claimed a total of 11 lives. Nine people died in a total of 108 traffic accidents, one person died of carbon-monoxide poisoning, and an Australian man was shot and killed by police after he went on a rampage with a knife, a cement block and a railroad tie. Sturgis Mayor Andrew Salvati said Monday he had nothing but praise for the town's residents and the dozens of lawmen brought in to police the rally. "There's no 'doubt' about it," Salvati said. "Sturgis was able to handle it. As far as I know, we'll have the rally again."

Rolling Stones thrill E. Germans

EAST BERLIN (R) — It was only rock 'n' roll, but it was the first Rolling Stones concert in Eastern Europe and tens of thousands of East Germans loved it. Some 50,000 East and West Germans showed up for the concert, scheduled on the 25th anniversary of the building of the Berlin Wall, which crumbled last November. Lead singer Mick Jagger paced the faded British rock group through a two-and-a-half hour performance at an East Berlin race track. It was the first East European appearance by the Stones in their 28 years as a group, made possible by the 1989 demise of East Germany's hard-line communist regime which had despised Western rock as ideological poison. "It's great to be here," Jagger, 47, shouted at the throng. "We'd like to give a big welcome to people who came in from Leipzig, Potsdam, Erfurt," he added, naming some of the cities which fuelled East Germany's reform movement. "It was never possible to see them before. Tonight was a dream come true," said fan Bernd Moews, who drove with his wife 150 kilometres from a northern town.

Half of priests violate celibacy rule

BOSTON (AP) — Up to half of Roman Catholic priests in the United States do not uphold their vows of celibacy, according to estimates from a 25-year study by a former Catholic priest who is now a psychotherapist. A.W. Richard Spivey told a forum at the American Psychological Association meeting that his study indicated 20 per cent of priests "have a clear pattern of heterosexual behaviour," 10 per cent to 13 per cent are homosexually active and 6 per cent are involved sexually with minors. The study, carried out between 1960 and 1985, is not a random scientific survey, but involved extrapolations from interviews with about 1,500 people. One-third were priests who were undergoing psychotherapy; a third were priests who shared their stories in workshops or informal settings and a third were lovers or others with firsthand knowledge of priests' sexual behaviour. The Rev. Kenneth Doyle, a spokesman for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, criticised the study for not gathering data from a random sample. He said the study relied heavily on priests who sought counselling for sexual problems. While half of priests generally support the idea of celibacy, only 2 per cent fully achieve it, Spivey said. About 6 per cent to 8 per cent of priests adhere to celibacy despite past reversals.